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COUNTRY SECTION

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

CENTRAL AMERICAN EDUCATION AGREEMENT--The eighth meeting of education and culture ministers ended in Managua with the signing of an agreement creating the Central American Educational and Cultural Coordinating Board [CECC]. Honduras, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Panama, El Salvador, and Guatemala signed the agreement, which calls for permanent cooperation and mutual help in the educational and cultural fields. [PA280516 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 17 Nov 82 p A]

CSO: 3248/298

COLOMBIA

BRIEFS

USSR TROLLEY CAR OFFER--A fleet of 100 trolley cars will be offered tomorrow by the Soviet Union to the district administration. For this purpose, Soviet Charge d'Affaires (Nikolay Elisarov) and Commercial Attache (Igor Greven) will visit Mayor Augusto Ramirez Ocampo in his office. Bogota already has the service of 125 trolley cars negotiated by the previous administration. The Soviets now want to increase their offer, under the same conditions as the previous exchange. It was also indicated that the [words indistinct] the Soviet diplomats will express their country's interest in buying 2,000 tons of coffee from Colombia next year. [Text] [PA170445 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 2330 GMT 16 Nov 82]

CSO: 3348/107

RED SUNDAY DECLARED SUCCESS THROUGHOUT COUNTRY

FL151455 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 15 Nov 82

[Excerpts] Yesterday's Red Sunday was a great day of productive work throughout the country. It was held to commemorate the 65th anniversary of the Great Socialist October Revolution and the 60th anniversary of the establishment of the USSR. In factories, shops, sugar mills, agricultural areas, military units, ports and even city blocks thousands of men and women of our people demonstrated once more with discipline, efficiency and fighting spirit the solidarity sentiments that unite us with Lenin's beloved homeland.

[Begin recording] We have with us Vilma Espin, alternate member of our party's Politburo and president of the Federation of Cuban Women. Comrade Vilma, how does it feel to participate beside the Soviet people in this work?

[Espin] Naturally, this volunteer work of 7 November, which we were obliged to postpone due to rain, has more participants each year, not only women but also members of the diplomatic corps and all the Soviet comrades living in Cuba. This year it was sad because it coincided with the death of Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, a great fighter for peace and the interests of his people. He was respected, admired and loved by all the revolutionary and progressive forces. We believe that this encourages us to make this Red Sunday as successful and productive as planned.

[Announcer] We have with us Konstantin Katushev, member of the CPSU Central Committee and Soviet ambassador to Cuba. [Katushev, in Russian with simultaneous Spanish translation] This Red Sunday, like a mirror, reflects the unyielding friendship that exists between our peoples. On this Red Sunday the Soviets and Cubans are participating and working together. This brotherhood which manifests itself here is a very strong brotherhood, an unbreakable brotherhood that is based on the faithfulness for the ideals of the Great October Revolution, on the faithfulness for our common objectives. [End recording]

CSO: 3248/251

CASTRO MAKES STATEMENTS DURING STOP IN IRELAND

FL181400 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 18 Nov 82

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the party Central Committee, has stated that the funeral ceremonies for Leonid Brezhnev were a demonstration of peace and that he was able to see the sincere spirit of peace in the Soviet leaders.

The president of the Cuban Council of State and Government made his statements in the Republic of Ireland where he made a brief stop on his way from Moscow to Cuba.

Upon his arrival in Havana yesterday afternoon, Fidel was welcomed by Army Gen Raul Castro, secretary of the party Central Committee and first vice president of the Council of State and Government. Also on hand to welcome Fidel were other members and alternate members of the Politburo, members of the Secretariat and Central Committee and Soviet ambassador to Cuba Konstantin Katushev.

Arriving together with Fidel were the rest of the members of the delegation attending the funeral of the late Soviet leader. Also returning home was the Nicaraguan delegation.

The top Cuban leader was bid farewell at the (Kukuvo) official airport by USSR Politburo member Konstantin Chernenko and Ivan Arkhipov, first deputy chairman of the presidium of the USSR Council of Ministers, among others.

During his brief stop in Shannon, Republic of Ireland, Fidel was received by Silvester Barret, Ireland's minister of state, representing the head of state of the Government of Ireland.

During a friendly meeting with Barret, Fidel thanked him for their kindness and attention and expressed the Cuban Government's interest in expanding relations with Ireland. We are very fond of Ireland, said the leader of the Cuban revolution. We are two small countries, two islands that have fought hard for independence, have a lot in common and have no animosities.

Minister Barret gave Fidel some gifts as souvenirs of his passing through Ireland and in turn Fidel gave gifts for the president and prime minister of Ireland, for Barret himself and for the airport director.

Responding to questions from reporters, Fidel said he favored a harmonious and peaceful settlement of Ireland's conflict. He said: I believe that Ireland is a single country, a single fatherland. I hope that some day all of Ireland will be united and live in peace. He told the reporters that he did not want to meddle in Ireland's internal affairs but that yes, he had expressed his regret and sympathy for the Irish patriots who months ago had gone on a hunger strike. He said he discussed the subject with the British, telling them that there was no need to be rigid and inflexible, that those men must be saved and that it was not right to let them die that way because of intransigence.

From the humane point of view, Fidel concluded, our people suffered greatly when those men were dieing and they undoubtedly demonstrated conviction and courage.

CSO: 3248/254

PEREZ HERRERO CLOSES FMC IDEOLOGICAL SEMINAR

FL192346 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2100 GMT 19 Nov 82

[Text] Antonio Perez Herrero, alternate member of the Cuban Communist Party Politburo, made the closing remarks at a national seminar on ideological education of the Federation of Cuban Women [FMC], which held working sessions during the past 3 days in this capital.

Perez Herrero began his speech by indicating that more than 80 percent of the female population, older than 14 years of age, has joined the FMC, which has developed an enormous amount of mobilizations in support of tasks demanding its efforts. During more than 2 decades, he added, the FMC has waged an arduous and successful battle against the practices and prejudices which impede women from exercising their fundamental rights. He added that the struggle for full equality of women is not an exclusive right of the FMC, but of all society whose successes depend on women's complete and definitive fulfillment.

Perez Herrero noted the political and ideological work of the FMC, which has played a most important role that deserves the party's highest recognition. We appreciate, he added, the importance of this seminar on ideological education, during which the necessary measures aimed at deepening still more in the political-ideological education of the Cuban women have been reviewed and analyzed.

Likewise, the FMC must continue to develop its ties with mass information media in order to find an adequate treatment to the topic of the woman and a programming which would do honor to her image in society. Perez Herrero asserted that in this sense, I would like to suggest that a meeting be held with the governing council of the Cuban Institute of Radio and Television to exchange views and discuss this matter in great detail.

CSO: 3248/251

COMMENTARY ON ARMED ACTIONS AGAINST NICARAGUA

PA151543 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 15 Nov 82

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] Hardly a day goes by without reports of new armed actions against Nicaragua by the counterrevolutionary bands. It's been a long time since those punitive operations, which are carried out with the complicity and support of the Honduran regime, ceased to be isolated and sporadic actions and became important operations, the prelude to a large-scale invasion against Sandino's homeland. Those criminal attacks combine the former Somozist guardsmen's forces and the regular Honduran troops, which are playing an increasingly active role in the aggressive plans prepared by the U.S. Government against Nicaragua.

The bands of former Somozist guardsmen established in Honduran territory comprise virtually a regular army, well-trained and heavily armed with U.S. aid. Those forces have columns of up to 1,000 men, who enter deep into Nicaraguan territory and viciously kill defenseless civilians, destroy and burn houses, steal domestic animals and destroy crops.

Only a few days ago, groups of former Somozist guardsmen attacked with mortar fire the border post of (Mitiles), located in Nicaragua's Madriz Department. The contingent included some 120 counterrevolutionaries who had come from the area of Cacamuya, located only 2 km from the border with Honduras, where there is a school to train these bandits. Almost simultaneously another group of counterrevolutionaries kidnapped 45 peasants in Nueva Segovia Department. The peasants were taken to Honduras. On their way there, 11 of them managed to escape, and they later said that their kidnappers carried rifles and wore olive green uniforms and berets.

Nicaraguan Interior Minister Commander Tomas Borge has described the peasants kidnapping as a strategy of terror, stressing that this incident is closely related to the current sabotage of coffee production and to the murder of technicians, officials and leaders of mass organizations.

It is evident that without the support and encouragement of the Honduran regime and the U.S. Government, the counterrevolutionary forces would have been dissolved and eliminated by the Sandinist Army and the Nicaraguan security bodies a long time ago.

It is no secret that President Ronald Reagan's government is actively participating in the training and arming of the former Somozist guardsmen camped in Honduras, where there are presently 95 U.S. military advisers. CIA director William Casey secretly visited Honduras in May to speed up the aggressive p against Nicaragua. Since then, the espionage organization's station in Honduras has grown noticeably. Charges about the plans prepared in Honduras to attack Nicaragua are made almost every day, despite the fact that the Tegucigalpa regime continues to deny any participation in them.

The recent special General Council sponsored by the Latin American Workers Permanent Congress for Trade Union Unity, Cpustal, turned into a forum for denouncing the imperialists' goals against Nicaragua. The delegates of 26 area countries meeting in Managua denounced the presence of dozens of camps of former Somozist guardsmen and other Nicaraguan counterrevolutionary elements who are undergoing fast training in Honduras in order to invade Nicaragua.

Many labor, political, social and humanitarian organizations throughout the world have also echoed this situation. Gabriel Garcia Marquez, the outstanding Colombian writer and 1982 Nobel prize winner, charged in Mexico that the plot that is being prepared in Honduras against Nicaragua, promoted from Washington, is perhaps the most serious in Latin America in the last 20 years. Thus the importance of solidarity among the world's progressive peoples and governments with the new Nicaragua, a bastion of freedom and democracy in Central America.

CSO: 3248/253

COMMENTARY SCORES IMF ROLE IN LATIN AMERICA

PA200416 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 18 Nov 82

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] In the opinion of international analysts, including political science Professor (Frankfurt Prats) of Toronto University in Canada, the International Monetary Fund [IMF] has become a direct agent of the U.S. Government. (Prats) has said that the IMF conditions its loans for the developing nations to policies such as reduction of wages and food subsidies in an effort to transfer the weight of the loan and the cost of economic recovery to the neediest sectors.

The progressive and revolutionary organizations of the world have already warned about this. This organization of political pressure through economy has been joined in Latin America by the so-called Central American Democratic Community, officially made up by Costa Rica, Honduras, El Salvador and Guatemala. This so-called community is a new instrument to isolate and attack the Nicaraguan revolution.

According to its principles, this community is a Central American version of the inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty, TIAR, since it provides for the joint military action when one of its members considers itself attacked.

To complete the interventionist siege in the area, the United States now plans the creation, with the cooperation of the UK, of a military bloc in the Caribbean. Last August, the publication (Caribbean insight) reported that the new political-military organization should be made up by the Caribbean community nations, headed by Jamaica and Barbados.

After the Malvinas conflict, however, the United States is finding it more difficult to coordinate punitive actions against the area's progressive governments. The United States refuses to accept that Latin America is no longer the same subcontinent where the majority of the government responded to U.S. dictates. Washington does not want to understand that the watchword of the destiny of the Central American nations today is their struggle for significant changes in the peoples' social, economic and political conditions imposed on them by misery, tyranny and oppression.

The new Latin America became clearly evident following the colonial aggression of the UK against Argentina in the Malvinas Islands, where the United States placed its military might at the disposal of its European ally for the purpose of frustrating the action of a traditionally friendly Latin American nation.

After those events, the idea for a reorganization of the inter-American system gained importance and many political leaders, including some governments, considered it necessary to create an organization including all Latin American nations without exception and excluding the United States.

The economic pressures and blackmail, of which the IMF is the foremost representative, can now be countered by the historic motion approved by the Latin American economic system, Sela, at its August meeting in Caracas. That conclave reaffirmed the sovereign right of all nations to choose their own economic, social and political paths in peace and freedom and free of pressures, aggressions and foreign threats.

The document demands the lifting of the Mebargo and economic blockade, the freezing of funds, the suspension of credits and other illegal, coercive and arbitrary measures. Such measures are imposed on some developing nations with the intention of undermining and preventing the full exercise of their national sovereignty, as determined by the sovereign will of their peoples. The above reference clearly points to the reiterated U.S. aggressions against Cuba and Nicaragua.

Sooner or later the United States must realize that Latin America is no longer the same after the Malvinas conflict.

CSO: 3248/253

RESULTS OF OAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSIONS VIEWED

PA220500 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 21 Nov 82

[Text] The 12th OAS General Assembly closed Saturday in Washington after approving a number of resolutions criticizing U.S. commercial practices and [words indistinct] the holding of a special economic conference.

Despite the U.S. objections, the Latin American and Caribbean foreign ministers approved seven resolutions demanding that Washington end its protectionist measures, which affect a broad range of exports of the countries in the region.

Colombian Foreign Affairs Minister Rodrigo Lloreda Caicedo, chairman of the present OAS meeting, said that it is necessary to review, with self-criticism, the programs of the organization and the bodies that are in charge of implementing them in order to ensure greater efficiency, renewed vigor and effective authority.

He stressed the fact that the meeting approved resolutions aimed at preventing the United States from applying new restrictive measures in its trade relations with Latin America, whose impact on the already battered economies of the continent would be catastrophic.

He did not mention, however, that Washington was the target of most resolutions on commercial matters, and that the United States either voted against them or abstained in most cases, such as those related to the U.S. vetoes on tuna and textile exports.

The Colombian foreign minister admitted that documents approved on the subject of human rights were regarded by some of the delegations as extremely timid and that many of them endorsed the idea of holding a summit of Latin American heads of state to review the serious problems faced by the continent.

Lloreda stressed that the Malvinas case and Bolivia's landlocked situation were discussed but made no reference to the fact that the Chilean delegation walked out when this last point was broached.

CSO: 3248/253

KAMPUCHEA'S PRINCE SIHANOUK CRITICIZED

Havana GRANMA WEEKLY REVIEW in English 24 Oct 82 p 12

[Article by Rolando Meneses: "An Evil Prince Without a Principality"]

[Text] An individual who was allied to the Peking clique, even when his country was being plundered by the Lon Nol regime, appeared on September 30 at the UN General Assembly to speak on behalf of a phantom government which slaughtered three million of his fellow citizens in Kampuchea. This individual is Prince Norodom Sihanouk, formerly an obedient servant of Chinese expansionist designs during the Maoist era and now a follower of China's current rulers.

On the eve of his disagreeable appearance at the UN, the secretary-general was informed by Hun Sen, former minister of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, that for the moment his country was not demanding the return of its UN seat if those usurping it on behalf of the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary criminal groups, who slaughtered the Kampuchean people, were expelled.

Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach aptly labeled the so-called Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea headed by Sihanouk as "a cheap cosmetic" to cover up the Pol Pot clique. In his September 29 press conference at UN headquarters, the Vietnamese foreign minister stressed that the reconstruction and progress currently taking place in Kampuchea was irreversible and the "return of Pol Pot would not be tolerated."

The firm stand of the People's Republic of Kampuchea and its Indochinese neighbors--Lao and Vietnam--has foiled the Pol Pot clique in spite of their harassment of the country, encouraged and armed by Peking and with the help of Yankee imperialism. The three Indochinese countries have made it clear that keeping the Pol Pot criminals in the UN, no matter what they call themselves, is an illegal act that runs counter to the Charter of the organization.

The decision made by the People's Republic of Kampuchea not to demand that it be seated at the UN at the present time is an act of good faith by its government. However, the UN must expel the representatives of a state which no longer exists, because the Pol Pot criminals are not, nor will they ever again be on the land where they slaughtered millions of people in less

that five years, a land where a whole population was on the brink of extinction.

Sihanouk, without principles or a principality and without the slightest bit of the Kampuchean soil which he betrayed, should retire to the house that awaits him in Peking. It's high time!

CSO: 3200/17

RAMIRO VALDES SPEAKS AT CHE GUEVARA COMMEMORATION


Havana GRANMA WEEKLY REVIEW in English 24 Oct 82 p 2

[Text]

Speech given by Major of the Revolution Ramiro Valdés, member of the Political Bureau of the Party and minister of the Interior, at the ceremony to commemorate the 15th anniversary of Ernesto Che Guevara's death, held at the Karl Marx Theater in Havana on October 8, 1982, Year 24 of the Revolution

Comrades of the Presiding Body:

Comrades All:



ON THE 15th anniversary of his death, our revolutionary people pay loving tribute to Che. This morning we witnessed the impressive ceremonies at Revolution Square and throughout the country in which 200 000 Cuban children, on being presented with their Pioneer scarves, pledged to make their best efforts to be Communists, to be like Che.

Our young students who never had the opportunity to meet Che also pledge to take inspiration from Che.

Our workers and small farmers, on beginning the Camilo-Che Ideological Campaign at their respective factories, agricultural cooperatives and other work centers, also pledge to take their inspiration from Che.

The fighters who protect our seas, skies and soil pledge to take their inspiration from Che.

Cubans carrying out internationalist missions across the sea, in schools in Nicaragua and Angola, in hospitals in many countries in Asia and Africa and in the trenches face to face with the enemy, also assert that they take their inspiration from Che's example.

And tonight, in this solemn ceremony which brings together many of us who had the privilege to be Che's comrades in struggle and work, in the Party and the Revolution, we, too, want to begin by saying the same thing: let us continue finding inspiration in Che, let us continue to try to be like him as Communists, as leaders and as workers.

Today marks the 15th anniversary of his death in Bolivia, and we must recall those days, so difficult and so bitter for all our people.

It would be very difficult to even imagine a greater example than that given by the peoples of Cuba when they drew courage from their sorrow in order to go on, when they turned that terrible blow into optimism

and a will to struggle, when they proclaimed that the presence of Che would always be felt in our Revolution and that we would always remember the lesson he taught us with his ideas and his actions.

And that is precisely what we are witnessing as we commemorate this anniversary of his death.

The model that Che left us as a revolutionary has become more deeply rooted in our people with each passing day. It has helped us in many difficult moments and now it is especially important and necessary.

We pay tribute to the memory of Che with our hearts and with our minds.

First, we pay tribute to the hero who made a very important contribution to our war of liberation, to the man who was capable of performing the greatest feats and who knew how to win a permanent place in the hearts of our people with his austerity, his personal example and his capacity for leadership.

And second, we pay tribute to the profound thinker whose ideas contributed to the solution of many of the delicate and difficult problems posed by the construction of socialism, the development of the revolutionary movement and the struggle waged by the peoples of Our America and the rest of the world for a future that can be described as humane.

Che's life was a constant demonstration of what a man's will, conviction and fighting spirit can achieve.

His own origins, the very fact that that young man, born in Argentina to a middle-class family, having made contact with the reality and the suffering of the continent's peoples, developed his thinking to such an extent that he became a conscientious revolutionary, is eloquent proof that in our times every honest, sensitive, responsible person will necessarily embrace the ideas of revolution and socialism.

Just as the oppressors of our peoples now try to present the revolutionary struggles in Central America as the result of a sort of communist intervention or conspiracy, there were also those who tried to describe Che as an international agent whose mission was to guide our revolutionary process toward the course of Marxism-Leninism.

The truth is that it was his reaction to injustice and oppression, his indignation over the Yankees' barbarous actions in Guatemala, his selfless interest in serving the just cause of our enslaved people that transformed that young, idealistic doctor, concerned with scientific and human problems, into a determined partisan of face-to-face combat against tyranny, into an avowed Communist.

It is imperialism and its system of exploitation and crime that create the conditions for the ever-increasing number of revolutionaries.

Fidel has described the circumstances which led to Che's involvement in the Revolution and how he and Raúl came to head the list of those who were later to form part of the Gramma expedition.

We would like to add that not only was Che one of the first two on Fidel's list but also that along with Raúl he soon became one of the brilliant students of the commander in chief. Fidel's ideas on the war, the leadership of the revolutionary process and the political tactics and strategy of our struggle found a brilliant and impassioned follower in Che. A man possessing a sound intellectual base, he knew how to express those ideas through his own personal style, and his relationship with Fidel constitutes a truly impressive model of communion of principles, sincerity, brotherhood and unbreakable loyalty. Whoever reads the notes exchanged between Fidel and Che in the days of the war will immediately realize their complete identification and mutual trust. And after the war, this permanent exchange of ideas and opinions became even more profound and decisive. Seldom in history do the man of action and the thinker come together in the same person and even more rarely do two men of thought and action develop such a relationship. A poet accurately and beautifully described such relationships: "Two souls become a luminous single one, as if San Martín's pure hand had been extended in a familiar gesture to Martí."

One of the things that drew our attention from the very beginning was Che's capacity, despite his background and education, to identify with the illiterate peasants and humble workers that made up the bulk of our troops and our social environment.

That virtue, his fighting spirit, his talent for solving military problems, his capacity for organization, his exceptional gifts as a leader and his broad political vision earned him immense prestige among the fighters and the people and within a few months he became one of the most important and best-known figures of our Rebel Army.

He was famous for his strict ideas on how things should be done, his sense of discipline and his aversion to any form of privilege or toadying, and he left in his wake an endless number of stories revealing his sense of austerity, his self-sacrifice, his Spartan life; all the infinite details that, without him trying, created an atmosphere of admiration and personal devotion among those around him.

That reputation accompanied him to the Sierra Maestra, where he distinguished himself from the first to the last combat against the tyranny.

When Fidel decided to send two rebel columns across the plains of the Cauto River and all of Camagüey province to the mountains in Las Villas, it was clear that the leaders to be assigned to that difficult mission would be Camilo and Che.

From October through December of that year, in less than two and a half months, the presence of the two guerrilla leaders and Che's exceptional authority and experience had a tremendous impact throughout Las Villas province. The strategic plan designed by the leader of the Revolution was carried out to the letter. The unstoppable rebel offensive was a decisive support to the main battle that was being waged in Oriente, and on January 1 the last battle of the war of liberation ended in Santa Clara and the weapons of the mercenary army were laid at the feet of the people.

Then came the new tasks and responsibilities of the Revolution in power. The demands became more complex

and difficult. And in the efforts to defend and consolidate the Revolution and lay the foundations of socialism under the adverse circumstances of an underdeveloped country in the midst of a blockade and economic harassment, Che once more became the able, iron-willed and irreproachable comrade in whom Fidel could place his absolute confidence.

With the same ease with which he had adapted to life in the mountains as a guerrilla, Che assumed his position as a revolutionary and government leader. Far from losing even one of his virtues, he developed new virtues. Neither power nor glory could impress him. He put all his energy into work without regard to the number of hours or days off. He tackled with dedication and seriousness a systematic study of economic problems and other subjects he deemed essential for his work. He became a minister, the president of the National Bank, a military leader, the person in charge of delicate state and political missions, and never ceased to be a comrade leading a simple and pure life, a humane revolutionary concerned about the small problems of those around him.

He played a vital role in the process of uniting all Cuban revolutionaries during that complex initial stage when the foundations were laid for what has today become the most definitive and highest work of the Revolution: our Communist Party of Cuba.

Che always paid particular attention to the problems of the organization of the Party, especially the characteristics that members of the communist vanguard should have. A staunch enemy of formalism, bureaucracy and neglect of the masses, Che insisted that Marxists should be, above all, human beings capable of displaying the highest degree of comradeship. Identification with the workers, concern for their families and children; people capable of reacting forcefully in the face of injustices committed anywhere in the world and who accept as their own the phrase by Martí which Che himself often quoted: "Every true man ought to feel on his own cheek the blow dealt to the cheek of any other man."

This idea of the qualities which must distinguish a revolutionary was a part of Che's own communist work style.

As a minister and state leader, he set an impressive example for the people of honesty, a spirit of self-criticism and responsibility, by always sincerely and rigorously admitting the mistakes and deficiencies of his own agency, without trying to hide behind the shortcomings of others.

Relying on the use of revolutionary criticism, collective leadership, demand for and control of individual responsibility, with a clear understanding of the importance of a correct cadre training policy, Che soon became one of the leaders of the Party and the government who best personified the principles of the construction of socialism.

It can be said that Che viewed socialism as an integral system, as a new system in history in which a new deal must be created and countless problems must be solved.

Socialism, he used to say, cannot just be a new form of distribution. It must change man himself, develop a new attitude towards life, work, society and the world. Many of the most important ideas which Che later put in his writings are aimed at contributing to solving this complex task. Che was not a utopian in any sense. As a Marxist-Leninist, he recognized the need for applying its principles and the application of the formulae of distribution according to work done. Anyone can easily confirm this by analyzing his organizational efforts and theoretical statements. And yet with his great intelligence he didn't overlook the inevitable contradictions in the

In these socialist principles. He was concerned about the same problems which Fidel has discussed in detail lately, namely, that the need to use material incentives to encourage production and boost productivity, the need for using the monetary and mercantile mechanisms, cannot become a renunciation of a truly communist awareness, cannot mortgage the hope to advance toward a genuinely superior form of humanity, cannot become an open door to selfishness, individualism, lust for profits and even corruption.

The most important and significant thing about the ideas which Che formulated was that he clearly grasped that moral factors play a vital role in the process of building a new society.

He understood that a people such as ours facing a long battle against U.S. imperialism could have no stronger defense than its morale, dignity, patriotism and political and revolutionary awareness.

He foresaw that when the imperialists could not destroy us by force or economic aggression they would resort to displays of their material wealth and try to undermine and corrupt the spirit of our people.

That is why he attached vital importance to the struggle against all these evils. He never tolerated even the slightest hint of corruption. He said socialism could never allow itself to be contaminated by this disease. He battled with exemplary rigor against all manifestations of lack of control, permissiveness and weakness as vices which were the breeding ground for the degradation of the human being. We feel that the way to be true to Che's legacy and teachings is to carry out an unending battle against all these problems. We have taken important steps in the last few months, as the people well know. But we must be determined to pursue a profound struggle to the very end against all these manifestations.

We have mentioned some of Che's virtues as a leader. He was profoundly unbureaucratic and he maintained permanent and direct links with the workers. He did this in a modest and unassuming manner. He would often visit factories and talk to workers, administrators and technicians and frequently participate in voluntary work sessions with them. He defined this activity as an effort conscientiously contributed to the development of society but whose effects are felt chiefly in the individual, in the development of individual consciousness. Che viewed voluntary work as a concrete example of how the individual started to view production in a different way, as a tool for the advance of the entire society, an expression of the willingness to sacrifice himself and give the most without any reward other than the satisfaction of duty fulfilled.

Our Party and people have upheld this political and ideological banner of voluntary work. We can never neglect it nor allow this tool for the development of communist awareness to be underestimated, cast aside or replaced by mercantilist formulas.

Che not only left us the heroic example of his life and countless feats for which all Cubans loved him.

He was not only the fighter who went to the Congo and Bolivia, leaving behind family, responsibilities and honors. He gave us the most inspiring lesson of unselfishness, stoicism and internationalist spirit ever known.

Fifteen years after his death, what we most value in Che is that his ideas remain valid and are being confirmed by historical experience.

As more time passes and more events take place on the international political and economic scene, our respect and admiration increase for the impressive manner in which Che was able to predict the future.

Now — when the world is gripped by the worst economic crisis in the last 50 years; when the conse-

quences of this state of affairs have a devastating impact on the underdeveloped countries; when the nations of Latin America have become the most debt-ridden in the world, with a debt of 240 000 million dollars; when the region's economic growth is the lowest in the last two decades; and when many countries are on the verge of ruin or in a dead-end situation, in which they can just barely pay for the oil they need — all of Che's speeches and articles analyzing and explaining the need to bring about a profound change in the structure of our hemisphere and the world take on a prophetic quality.

In the period when imperialism was still trying to fool our peoples with the illusion of an Alliance for Progress, Che explained that the very nature of the monopoly system and the type of economic relations existing between the United States and the Latin American countries would transform that reformist and neo-colonialist program into a huge swindle of the peoples of the region.

He said that if there is no genuine liberation, if political power is not in the hands of the working masses, if the people do not become the owners of their own wealth, no plan can cure the ill that plagues the economies of Latin America.

The situation he envisaged was so urgent that the peoples had no alternative but to struggle for their liberation, to throw off imperialist domination and battle with all their might to overcome the economic, scientific and technical backwardness of centuries.

History is confirming the validity of Che's predictions.

He knew that the more time passed, the more unfavorable the situation of these countries would become and the more difficult their political and economic emancipation would be.

He rightly noted that the struggle for peace was firmly linked to the mobilization of the peoples against the common enemy, international solidarity and the solution of the vital economic demands raised by the poorest and most exploited nations.

All these problems which now plague the world — the worsening of unequal terms of trade, financial and technological dependency, unbearable indebtedness, the imperialist arms race, the imperialists' tendency to take the most reactionary, arrogant and aggressive positions, to the extent that the crisis of the system becomes more acute — were predicted by Che with amazing foresight.

The ideals for which he gave his life had nothing to do with adventurism; they were based on a profound and objective reflection of the world reality.

Of course, he was a man accustomed to turning his ideas into action.

He did not limit himself to theorizing about the need for revolution. He became a soldier of that revolution and in an act unprecedented in history, he started all over again from the beginning.

He could have died in Cuba at the start of our struggle but he died in Bolivia years later. And just as his death in our country would not have meant that the path he took was mistaken and futile, his death in Bolivia does not mean the failure of his ideas.

That is the conclusion the imperialists tried to promote claiming that Che's death showed it was not possible for new popular movements to carry out an insurrection and be victorious.

But not many years passed and one day on a small island in the Caribbean, an armed vanguard with the resolute support of the people ended a brutal regime and brave Grenada started to advance along the path of Revolution.

A few months later it was heroic Nicaragua's turn. Under the leadership of the Sandinista National Liberation Front, the Nicaraguan people victoriously concluded its insurrection against the Somoza regime. Our America again witnessed days which recalled those of 20 years ago, in January 1959.

The revolutionary movement in many countries was given an inspiring example and a source of encouragement. The Sandinista Revolution showed once again that it is possible to defeat tyrannical armies and pave the way for a genuine process of national and social emancipation.

Now the imperialist rulers again say that there will be no more revolutions and criminally travel the path of counterrevolution and intervention against the peoples of Central America and other parts of the world.

Cuba maintains its willingness to work for a negotiated political solution which will bring peace and tranquility to the peoples of Central America.

The imperialists are the ones who insist on a military solution regardless of the cost; they are the ones who arm and train the murderous forces, who provide huge sums to support repressive regimes in power, who think it is possible to crush the peoples and turn back the course of history.

On the other hand, we know one thing: that with or without a political solution, nothing can prevent the realization of the aspirations of the peoples of El Salvador and Guatemala for peace, justice and freedom.

The imperialists are unable to stop the advance of human society or extinguish just and legitimate demands.

The progress of the revolutionary movement was not stopped by Che's death and no crime or genocide, no ultrareactionary policy can achieve such a goal today.

If there was a single reason for Che's profound and constant optimism, it was the certainty provided by his own experience that the death of individuals does not mean the death of their cause and that the example of heroes becomes a breeding ground for new leaders and revolutionary fighters.

One day he said in moving words, "Wherever death may surprise us, let it be welcome if our battle cry has reached even one receptive ear, and another hand reaches out to take up our arms, and other men come forward to join in our funeral dirge with the chattering of machine guns and new calls for battle and for victory."

Life has shown that those men, those people capable of carrying forward the revolution have responded and will respond to Che's call.

Thus, Che does not represent a page of the past in this hemisphere. Che represents the future!

His banners were not buried in Bolivia; they flutter in the wind in our lands with a message of inspiration and hope for all peoples who face tyranny and oppression.

For the Cuban people as well, those banners fly higher and are more necessary than ever.

We are living in difficult times, times of economic crisis, threats and danger.

Now our country faces financial problems that force us to reduce our plans, make sacrifices and make greater efforts in the field of production, conservation and efficiency.

Nor are we exempt from the dangers which spring from the aggressive and adventuristic positions of the current rulers of the United States. We are a people whom they have blockaded, whose financial and commercial operations they try to obstruct by all possible means. We are a people hounded by an enemy without scruples and we prepare ourselves to confront any situation without fear of any kind.

We must work amidst objective difficulties while striving constantly to strengthen national defenses.

One day after the October Crisis, Che said that all our people had become the legitimate heirs of Maceo. If there are new threats or attacks in the future, we can say that our people will not only be like Maceo; they will also be like Che. We will draw inspiration from him if the time comes to fight.

We will draw inspiration from him to continue fulfilling the noble principles of proletarian internationalism.

We will draw inspiration from him whenever the road seems long, whenever there are difficulties, whenever we face setbacks and sacrifices.

This is the tribute truly worthy of his greatness. This is the only thing that could compensate for the fact that he is no longer with us. This is the only revolutionary way to be true to his memory and his example. This is the only way in which, today and tomorrow, we can honor Che and all the other heroes who fought and died with him and in which we can proclaim with absolute confidence in the future:

Ever onward to victory!

Long live the immortal example of the Heroic Guerrilla!

Long live the heroes of internationalism who died in Bolivia!

Patria o muerte!

Venceremos!

PEREZ HERRERO ADDRESSES TEACHERS CONGRESS

Havana TRABAJADORES in Spanish 6 Oct 82 pp 4-5

[Speech by Antonio Perez Herrero, alternate member of the PCC Politburo and member of the Secretariat, at the Fifth Congress of the National Science, Education, and Sports Workers Union, at the Manuel Ascunce Theater in Ciudad Libertad, on 1 October 1982; passages enclosed in slantlines printed in boldface]

[Text] Comrades:

As work draws to a close at the Fifth Congress of the National Science, Education, and Sports Workers Union--which is concluding after taking stock of 5 years of continuous fruitful work--we particularly want to greet, on behalf of the Party, the delegates who have represented over 360,000 members working steadfastly for progress and cohesion for our society.

This event is clearly important to the development of the labor movement; and it is especially significant because of the importance of the resolutions adopted to implement the intentions expressed and decisions reached at the first and second Party congresses relative to education, science, sports, and physical culture. Implementation of them requires increasing participation by the workers connected with those activities and, as a result, a major effort by the union itself.

The congress ending today is a summary of the extensive analytical process carried out throughout the country, in which the emphasis fell, in each case, on the issues involving what is suitable of the activity and tasks performed by the workers in the different sectors grouped together in the union. The varied make-up of its membership obliges us to discuss some particular aspects of their work separately.

For example, careful, detailed consideration was given to problems related to education and the duties of our instructors and teachers, whose self-sacrificing work clearly demonstrates their magnificent ability to effectively contribute to the successful training of the younger generation.

The process reaching from the rank and file to the congress has enabled the workers and their leaders to ponder the union's role in the performance of tasks of vital importance to the construction of socialism. These tasks involve activities in science, education, and sports, as well as the training of the younger

generation. In our schools these young people are developing their physical and intellectual skills, learning about the scientific view of the world, refining their esthetic tastes, and internalizing the principles of communist morality. Educators' work, because of its creative nature, its humanistic approach, its mass orientation, and its scientific content, continuously affirms that socialism is a system that is constructed by men who are free and aware of historic necessity.

/Communist education of the younger generation is the product of many social factors./

Communist education of the younger generation is the product of many social factors that come together under the Party's leadership to bring to the young and consolidate the awareness needed and ability essential to management of the country's destiny and to guaranteeing of the fatherland's progress; the firm determination to face all possible alternatives and deeply rooted political/ideological convictions to reject and turn back the enemy's attacks, to make its attempts to mislead fail, to preserve our people's revolutionary achievements, and to advance in the direction pointed out by Fidel. This is essentially the task assiduously carried out each day by workers belonging to the Science, Education, and Sports Workers Union.

With a view to fully realizing these objectives, the second Party congress stressed the need to improve the quality of education. The union plays an extremely important part in that because quality is the result of proper organization of work and, in particular, of the daily efforts of tens of thousands of instructors, teachers, directors, advisers, and heads of departments and schools who are working throughout the country to give concrete form to the policy laid down by the Party.

/We are sure that the results obtained will favor improvement of the union's organic functioning./

We are convinced that improving the quality of education is directly related to the progress we make in the essential improvement of instructors and teachers and to the existence of proper advising and more professional methodological work. All that must be linked to correct use of school equipment and materials and to efforts to achieve ongoing, reliable coordination of theory with practice and work with study.

In stressing quality as the basic factor in educational work, the Party is calling upon teachers and educational leaders to forge ahead and overcome the deficiencies still found in the teaching/educational process.

It is legitimate and necessary to strive for high promotion rates, but people must not lose sight of the fact that this is valid only when we focus our concern on comprehensive training of the students and the depth and quality of the knowledge they acquire, turning them into an element that is active and prepared for the new life and creative work.

When we speak of the need to continue improving the quality of education, we are taking into consideration--in addition to methodology--factors related to training

in work through systematic linking of study and work, and we mean patriotic/military, internationalist, moral education. Of course, we are also speaking of the need to expand and strengthen athletic activity, physical education, and the art-lovers movement in our schools. Improving the quality of education also means achieving optimal work discipline and encouraging teaching personnel to serve as models.

It's necessary to insist on that because the school--and, with it, the instructors and teachers--is the focus of society's efforts toward the professional, technical, ideological, and cultural training of children and young people. As a result, direct work with educators is unavoidable in union activity. It is not idle to stress this, for our educators make up a mass of over 240,000 instructors and teachers, most of them young people who, although they have proper training, do not always have a great deal of experience.

/We are certain that the union must fight to systematically strengthen the effectiveness of its work./

We are certain that the union must fight to systematically strengthen the effectiveness of its work. It must play an increasingly stronger role as a mobilizer of workers, constructively reflect their needs, and contribute to satisfaction of them to the extent possible. An example of constructive management is the careful attention that has been paid to compliance with the regulations governing use of instructors' and teachers' time. There are also the measures designed to prevent excess handling of documents and record-keeping, which, as has been stressed at this congress, have become an intolerable burden.

The congress has clearly demonstrated the unanimous desire to support these measures and insure their genuine efficacy.

It is necessary to continue acting in such a way as to allow elimination of similar phenomena arising in higher education, too, and in union activity, the sports movement, and even in school administrations.

We are convinced that the results of this congress will lead to the union's playing an increasingly important role in continuing--with the Party and institutional administrations--the efforts aimed at political/ideological improvement of the workers in science, education, and sports and at enrichment of their knowledge of Marxist-Leninist theory, a basic requirement for the best possible carrying out of their social responsibilities as educators.

In that regard, it is the union's and the Party's desire to continue expanding--as much as possible--participation by workers and cadres in the Party's courses in political/ideological improvement, particularly those at the intermediate and higher levels as well as at the Marxist-Leninist Improvement schools organized by the Ministry of Education and the union organization in municipalities.

Along with that, it's appropriate for the results of this improvement to be evaluated, not for the number of activities taking place or the number of reports turned out, but for the degree of internalization of knowledge of our scientific ideology, which will become evident in people's practical attitude toward work,

in their ongoing studies, in their social life, in their confronting the remnants of the old society, in their personal conduct, in their combativeness, and in their loyalty and dedication to the cause of the working class and socialism.

/Educators are assuming the great social responsibility of training the younger generation in revolutionary principles and beliefs./

Educators are assuming the great social responsibility of training the younger generation in revolutionary principles and beliefs on the basis of our socialist morality and ideology. The example of the teacher, the revolutionary activist par excellence, bears fruit when his words and attitudes are blended with his actions and conduct at school and in society. He participates in revolutionary tasks, expanding his ideological, scientific, and pedagogical training, and lives and works in such a way as to exert a positive influence.

Emulation among workers in education, an element examined in detail both during preparations for the congress and during it, is an area of union work that requires careful study in all its details, entailing analysis of experiences from these years as well as those of other, brother, countries. In this way, we can make the conclusions reached an effective instrument for simple, logical, effective fulfillment of the tasks, thus obtaining a lever that contributes to everyone's basic objective; that is, to high-quality educational work demonstrated by its results.

When speaking of the education and training of the younger generation, we can't fail to bear in mind the truly significant activity of the social and mass organizations, which are not only doing their best to insure the self-improvement of their members but are also contributing in various ways to the attainment of excellent results by the national education system as a whole. The movements of combatant mothers and model fathers for education, which--under the leadership of the Federation of Cuban Women and the Committees for Defense of the Revolution--involve hundreds of thousands of families in educational tasks, are outstanding examples of these contributions.

We are especially interested in talking about adult education, an area in which the labor movement and all the people, with the essential assistance of education workers, entered and won the battle for the sixth grade; and today they are engaged in completing the ninth. In this endeavor, the National Science, Education, and Sports Workers Union has a fraternal responsibility to support the labor movement as a whole, and the movement in turn must work harder to achieve maximum, continuing school attendance.

In this new struggle to raise our workers' cultural level, the political and social organizations must make a decisive contribution in order to attain--along with all other unions--another victory that will always involve the participation of the workers in this union.

Adult education makes it possible for tens of thousands of people who in the past did not have access to schools or were unable to complete their schooling to fulfill their dreams. This is further proof of the true humanitarianism of our education system, created not only to train the work force but also to assist men in achieving, through cultivation of his intellectual endowment, full development.

of his personality and becoming an integral part of the society we are building and the new era, which is characterized by the rapid growth of scientific knowledge.

/From this fifth congress we congratulate the workers in science, education, and sports who have carried out and are carrying out an internationalist mission in various brother countries./

From this fifth congress we congratulate the workers in science, education, and sports who have carried out and are carrying out an internationalist mission in various brother countries, the members of the General Augusto Cesar Sandino and Frank Pais contingents, and the young people in the Che Guevara Internationalist Pedagogical Detachment, future members of this union; they are also carrying out the task entrusted to them with a spirit of self-sacrifice and unbreakable resolve. Our fraternal greetings to the instructors working at the internationalist schools on the Isle of Youth and to those making up the Sierra Maestra Contingent, which, in the mountains of Granma Province, is doing magnificent work in the training of our children and young people. Our heartfelt homage to those who, in fulfilling their internationalist duties, have given their precious lives, becoming eternal heroes to the fatherland and humanity.

The congress is providing us the opportunity to speak of the enormous significance rightly ascribed to the activity to which scientific and technical research workers are devoted. It is said, and it's entirely true, that science becomes a productive force, a factor without which socioeconomic progress halts or is reversed. We can consider it an achievement of the Revolution that today we have over 1,000 doctors and candidates for that degree in the sciences. They are making their contribution to the country's development at over 100 research centers and 40 institutions of higher education.

The results obtained thus far indicate an increase in the effectiveness of the scientific/technical work done in the interest of production and services, and, consequently, to the benefit of society. This trend will become even more marked as the people devoted to this work improve their skills. In the drive toward higher goals, what the union and its leaders can do should not be underestimated, and they will undoubtedly do it, depending on their social function.

Scientific and technical accomplishments require close collaboration by workers belonging to the union, their joint action being an objective necessity. The results being obtained in biology only 1 year after work has begun are a striking example of what can be achieved in this way.

/Given circumstances well known to everyone, it is more appropriate than ever that we insist on economical use of physical resources./

Given circumstances well known to everyone, it is more appropriate than ever that we insist on economical use of physical resources, on rational use of what we have. Also, we must be constantly alert in the search for solutions to the problems that arise and must maintain our desire for self-improvement and our revolutionary determination to overcome obstacles placed in our path by the enemy's incessant hostility.

We trust that the innovators' and rationalizers' movement and the young people's technical brigades, which are making such a notable contribution to the nation's economy, continue to receive the union's enthusiastic, responsible support.

At the same time, it is the organization's job to maintain the stress on the most rigorous standards with respect to the scientific suitability, the discretion, modesty, and revolutionary firmness that should characterize them.

Another aspect of this union's complex job dealt with in the congress' report and discussions is the development of physical culture and sports. The working of the different factors affecting sports, obviously including the union, has been made clear in the recently concluded 14th Central American and Caribbean Games. In them, our country's athletic power was again demonstrated, reflecting the perseverance, hard work, and discipline of athletes, trainers, technicians, specialists, and workers in general.

The success of sports in our country should not lull us into complacency and the false idea that there are no problems, deficiencies, and difficulties that need to be faced and overcome.

It is those very levels achieved that give workers, technical leadership cadres, political organizations, and the union the obligation to analyze--focusing on their own responsibilities--the present mechanisms and the basis on which this development is maintained. Thus, the workers' views are represented in the urgent task of working out a policy and a strategy for the future that can insure positions already reached and also lead to progress in certain sports.

In this regard, we must stress that in our society, the basic function of sports and physical culture and the primary concern of the cadres and bodies charged with this task, as well as the organizations promoting it, is mass involvement in them as a way of insuring that they contribute to human health and welfare and serve as instruments for people's overall development.

Despite the progress made in the involvement of the population in sports and physical culture and regardless of some results in systematic activity in them, the levels have not been reached yet that are needed to insure our people's full involvement in sports, guaranteeing from that essential base a new crop of athletes to replace the present generation.

/There is not enough mass involvement in sports and physical culture among workers and farmers./

There is not enough mass involvement in sports and physical culture among workers and farmers, among students at all levels; and little attention and encouragement is given to physical training among workers, which needs to be restored to earlier levels. The Science, Education, and Sports Workers Union can play an important role in this entire endeavor.

In sports where our people excel there has been progress in certain areas and stagnation in others, which reflects uneven development and the existence of problems, difficulties, and deficiencies hindering smooth progress in this area of athletic activity. This reality indicates an urgent need to analyze this

situation until suitable solutions are found that are consistent with the country's economic and social development.

An essential element in all that is the network of schools specializing in sports education that are called upon to insure, through rigorous selection of their student bodies and consistent application of science and technology, systematic production of the required number and quality of superior athletes, teachers, instructors, and specialists.

It's necessary to conduct studies designed to improve the overall sports and physical culture system. This will make it possible to establish a solid, effective relationship among its different elements, insure consolidation of past achievements, and aid further progress in this important activity.

The sports program that has arisen out of the Revolution has produced--throughout these years--athletes who have honorably, simply, and modestly represented the national colors and have held high the principles maintained by the working people. These young people are a source of pride for the people, who support and admire them and in certain cases turn them into models of combativeness, selflessness, and dedication. Improving and systematizing political and ideological work with athletes, trainers, leaders, and workers in general to preserve these lovely traditions and expand their revolutionary consciousness shall always be the focus of the different factors affecting activities in physical culture and sports.

It is up to the union to play an active role in the attainment of the objectives set forth. It can do this through support and encouragement of measures adopted and the embracing of any initiative that might help to achieve the ends sought.

The discussion and approval of the main report and the other resolutions adopted at this fifth congress insure that workers in education, science, and sports will achieve new triumphs for the working class, the fatherland, and socialism.

/We are convinced that raising the quality of education is directly related to the progress we achieve in the essential improvement of instructors and teachers./

We are sure that the results obtained will contribute to improvement of the union's organic functioning, which can serve as a base for stabilization at suitable levels of some aspects of the work that were not performed satisfactorily during the period this event has examined. We are referring, for example, to the matter of cadres, which, at both the national and other levels, lacked the necessary stability.

The missions in society's life that the members of this union must carry out assumed even greater significance at the present time.

This meeting is taking place within a particularly tense international situation. Capitalism's general crisis, especially the economic crisis it is experiencing, is worsening, aggravated by the stupid, criminal conduct of the present U.S. administration.

The Reagan government is hindering the economic and social development of the so-called Third World countries, shamelessly blackmailing and exerting pressure on governments in all latitudes, intervening militarily in El Salvador, protecting the bloodiest regimes, and doing everything possible to undermine the forces of socialism, progress, and peace. It is also economically besieging and militarily threatening people, like those of Nicaragua, who have heroically won the right to build a new life. The sinister clique running the most powerful imperialist country must bear the responsibility for the crimes committed in the Palestinian camps in Lebanon by the Israeli forces using U.S. arms and military and political support. The imperialists are responsible for poverty, unemployment, hunger, and the deaths of millions of people throughout the world.

The stance maintained in opposition to our country, the object of their unending traditional attacks, with the heightening to the maximum of the economic blockade, political persecution, and threats of all sorts, characterizes the difficult conditions under which we must carry out our work.

The Cuban people, accustomed to the problems caused by the imperialists' systematic hostility, is prepared to deal with them and to overcome even greater obstacles. Educated by our Party and our commander in chief, the working class doesn't forget for one moment the need of military preparation, nor is it frightened by economic aggression. Cuba can and will be able to fight, and win, because it has the unquenchable spirit that has enabled us to survive and advance in open, sustained battle against imperialism and underdevelopment.

/In the ideological struggle against campaigns of lies launched against Cuba, in political work to heighten economic awareness and combative spirit in young people and everyone, you have the opportunity and the revolutionary duty to play an important role./

In the ideological struggle against campaigns of lies launched against Cuba, in political work to heighten economic awareness and combative spirit in young people and everyone, you have the opportunity and the revolutionary duty to play an important role.

Right now the imperialists are planning to construct a counterrevolutionary transmitter to broadcast slanderous, misleading propaganda against our people in flagrant violation of international law; a shameless attack on our country's sovereignty. Adopting a firm, combative stance, this congress has spoken against this new aggression, rightfully and energetically denouncing it. Educators, scientists, and sportsmen will be able to unmask this new attack and carry to their school, their shop, their research center or athletic field the revolutionary truth as opposed to the enemy's lies.

We can look toward the future with the optimism born not of ignorance of existing problems but of analysis and study that will enable us to overcome them. This is an optimism that arises from the strength of our convictions, from unbending faith in the ideology of the proletariat and complete unity of everyone around the Party and Fidel.

You have the noble, beautiful, and responsible task of educating the younger generation, of making them more physically and spiritually fit, and of achieving

new successes and further progress in the field of science. You are the center of activities in which large segments of the population take part. To the extent that we manage to have your influence exerted in favor of more constant, systematic, and far-reaching work; to the extent that we manage to have socialist education, science, and sports activity develop and spread, we will be carrying out a task of vital importance to defense and our society's development.

Throughout the congress, those meeting here have discussed assemblies for the instructional/educational process, for production and services, for representatives as well as emulation and other forms of union activity. We must use these sources to create a more militant attitude about economic use of materials, about protection of social property, about care of buildings and equipment. Economic use must not simply exist as a slogan; it must take the shape of specific plans, of controls, of daily compliance, so that what we have, which is the product of everyone's labor, is properly cared for and used.

Problems with materials affect work at quite a few places. We must analyze each specific case and completely eliminate every subjective problem, every obstacle stemming from defective organization, from counterproductive measures or negligence, to obtain the most rational, proper use of resources.

Moreover, the union must be receptive and sensitive to problems facing workers in the carrying out of their tasks and in their personal life.

/At the same time, we must not ignore the objective causes of existing problems with materials./

At the same time, we must not ignore the objective causes of existing problems with materials. We cannot stop our work or lose heart in the struggle for quality because we don't have the necessary resources. Our people have made major sacrifices to provide this sector with proper equipment and facilities, although we know that many institutions are working under great limitations. The union will teach the masses to rise above obstacles; it will guide the assemblies so that a constructive spirit prevails at them and workers' efforts and interest are directed toward basic issues. The union will take care to see to it that problems with materials mentioned are properly acknowledged, and it will guide members' discussion of essential aspects of their instructional, scientific, or athletic activity so that this activity will continue with new, more significant successes. We must make better use of the initiative of the masses and channel it into solution of the sector's and the country's problems.

With the masses, the Revolution has won the major battles it has entered thus far; and with the masses we'll win future encounters. The union has workers with the professional training necessary to make even greater contributions to society, contributions that, naturally, can't be carried out in a single day. Behind each success in education, in sports, or in science there is long, rationally planned work. The union, along with the Party and government, has to insist more consistently on daily work, on better organization of it, and on considering it the springboard toward new victories.

The period whose beginning this congress marks must be characterized by each worker's commitment to give more of himself in each day's tasks and by the union's determination to contribute to improved organization, to proper, realistic planning and smoother, more efficient work.

Today our labor movement is more vigorous and energetic than ever. Its connection with the Party and the Revolution is complete and total. Its commitment to socialism and internationalism is a living monument to the immortal ideas of Marx and Engels.

Education, science, and sports workers deserve our Party's congratulations for carrying out their tasks and for holding this fifth congress, which is a powerful stimulus to eradication of deficiencies and continued worthiness of the deserved prestige that they have earned for our Revolution.

With a firm step, they will travel the road marked out by this congress, proud of the [one illegible word] entrusted to them by the Revolution, disposed to be better prepared, to be more aware, active, and [one illegible word]; to be more resolute and revolutionary, to live up--with their militant stance--to the high opinion the working class and the people have of this union, and to the ongoing attention paid them by our Party, and especially by our commander in chief.

On behalf of the Party, we warmly congratulate the comrades elected to the leadership of the National Science, Education, and Sports Workers Union and to all its members, for what they have accomplished.

Thank you.

9085

CSO: 3248/206

CASTRO PRAISES TEACHERS ENDING NICARAGUA TOUR

FL191836 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1500 GMT 19 Nov 82

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Cuban Communist Party Central Committee and president of the Councils of State and ministers, has sent a letter to the Cuban internationalist teachers who have completed their tour in Nicaragua. The letter states:

My very dear teachers: Three years have passed since the first internationalist teachers contingent named Augusto Cesar Sandino left for Nicaragua in November 1979 to collaborate in the great educational task undertaken by the Sandinist revolution to bring education to the remotest regions and places of that sister country of Central America.

During these 3 years the Cuban teachers have completely fulfilled the mission entrusted to them with dedication and great sacrifice and have written heroic pages in the struggle against ignorance and backwardness, helping to construct hundreds of new schoolrooms in the country's most inaccessible corners, sometimes so remote and without communications that several days walking is required to reach them.

You also knew how to deal with the difficulties of the local conditions, working hard beside the Nicaraguan brothers at whatever tasks had to be accomplished. The work done by you together with the brigade members and the Nicaraguan people helped to guarantee schools and teachers for the majority of the population while at the same time substantially decreasing, in less than 1 year, the high rate of illiteracy that existed in the country.

These achievements have not been without sacrifices. The blood of young internationalist teachers was spilled in the heroic land of Sandino, along with the satisfaction of fulfilling a duty.

Teachers, peasants and workers were murdered in a criminal and cowardly fashion during our own literacy campaign, in similar incidents the criminal actions of the Somozist counterrevolution took the lives of the young internationalist teachers Francisco Concepcion Castillo, Pedro Pablo Rivera Cue, Barbado Rodriguez Hernandez and Aguedo Morales Reina, who fell in the struggle against illiteracy and the lack of culture in the fulfillment of their revolutionary duty.

These horrible crimes did not intimidate or deter our teachers. Thousands of them volunteered to replace those whose names are now part of history. They are examples of fidelity to the principles of internationalism and the struggle we are waging to provide education for everyone.

Every comrade who has fallen in the struggle against the enemy in the fulfillment of his duty has made you more revolutionary and better teachers. Under the difficulties and aggressions that the Nicaraguan people are presently enduring, you are examples of courage, responsibility, sacrifice and firmness of revolutionary convictions.

We are satisfied with the accomplishments and the pride that this represents for our revolution and for our party. Internationalist aid constitutes one of the most noble and beautiful tasks of our communist education and thousands of Cuban teachers are participating.

I congratulate you who have completed your 2 years of service in Nicaragua and have honestly carried out the mission entrusted to you and at the same time I convey to you the recognition of our people with the assurance that you will have new and greater achievements in your teaching profession. [Signed] Fidel Castro

CSO: 3248/254

UJC, YOUTH NATIONAL ECONOMIC PROJECTS REVIEWED

Havana JUVENTUD REBELDE in Spanish 10 Oct 82 p 6

[Article by Marcelino Ortiz C. and Team of Correspondents]

[Text] Next 26 July we will celebrate the 30th anniversary of the attack on Moncada barracks in Santiago de Cuba and at Cespedes de Bayamo where a group of youths led by our commander in chief, Fidel, decided to hoist the flag of freedom in 1953.

Since then, the Cuban youth have made many efforts, first to continue the armed struggle and then to achieve and defend revolutionary successes.

The desire to form a new link for its already long chain of labor feats keeps the youths and members of the UJC [Union of Young Communists] throughout the country working to carry out their economic initiatives. Without any doubt, these will be a worthy homage to the 30th anniversary of the Moncada attack.

To give an idea of this great effort that they will carry out, we can say that the 14 provinces and the special municipality Isle of Youth will carry out 30 economic projects each and will execute others nationally.

What concretely will the youths do? Here are some examples.

Blades for Cane Combines

The 54 members and youths who work in the Tool Shaping and Unpolished Metal Articles Enterprise in Guantanamo have proposed as their economic initiative to produce 120,000 steel blades for KTP-1 cane combines by July 1983.

To achieve this, the youths contribute extra workdays to the different, complex steps of the manufacturing process for these parts even if that is not their usual job. The plant stays open even on nonworking Saturdays and Sundays.

By 20 December, the enthusiastic collective hopes to complete one productive stage as a salute to the "Granma" landing and finish 70,000 blades. There are already 21,240 packed and 42,404 in process.

Fulfillment of the proposed goal will be their contribution to the national economy and will help solve the problem of basic parts for the development of mechanized cane agriculture.

Spare Parts

The Holguin people of the CX-1 Agricultural Machinery Shop of the Fernando de Dios Cane Enterprise strive to restore 3,200 spare parts and manufacture 3,834.

This shop where 52 workers including 18 youths work repairs the KTP-1 combines, Yung tractors, MTZ, agricultural tools and irrigation and fumigation equipment used for the cane crop in Holguin which is more than 75 percent mechanized.

Rails Initiative

The railway workers of Camaguey have proposed a difficult challenge to their determination and intelligence rather than a simple goal in order to salute the 30th anniversary.

They will transport 35 million ton-kilometers of diverse merchandise to different areas in some 75 trips. About 220 youths in several vanguard crews will participate in this initiative.

They have already completed 26 trips in which they moved 6,736 passengers and 3,375,417 ton-kilometers during the peak months of July and August.

Drilling Oil Wells

One of the largest initiatives of Matanzas Province was begun by the youths of the Oil Drilling and Extraction Enterprise of Cardenas: to drill two wells.

Some 280 youths and veterans are participating in the project. The UJC Committee at that center has organized brigades in order to have the youths working constantly on both wells and having the commitments fulfilled by June 1983.

It should be pointed out that this enterprise contributed one of the largest youth initiatives in the country during the past stage by drilling one well.

At the Thermonuclear Power Plant

About 400 youths and members of the UJC at the Cienfuegos CEN [Thermonuclear Power Plant] will erect an acetylene plant, Project No. 57. This work should begin in the second half of October.

The large plant that will serve the rest of the shops and projects of the CEN will be one of the most important economic installations that the youths will execute in overtime with the backing of the collective of workers.

The plant will aid the construction of the National Impact Project, the CEN. The project has already been drawn up and the area where it will be erected laid out.

The CEN youths plan to complete the economic initiative by 4 April 1983 in salute to the 21st anniversary of the UJC.

In Granma

One of the Granma labor collectives that has the largest youth initiative work at the 20th Aniversario del Triunfo de la Revolucion Enterprise. It produces batteries to satisfy most of the needs of the country.

The greatest satisfaction of these Manzanilla youths is that, through their commitments, they have incorporated all the workers at the center in this decisive effort.

The need for the enterprise to fulfill its production plans through their own solution of as many problems as possible explains the role of the youths in the internal emulation that arose during the development of economic initiatives.

It is no accident that they have already achieved more than 84 percent of the goal with 17 tons of lead recovered and with the production of other indispensable elements for the batteries, all done through volunteer work by the entire collective.

In Camajuani

Those who participate in the construction of the new Villa Clara mill propose to complete the construction of the cold storage area. About 200 of them are participating in the work which is more than 60 percent completed. Its termination date is December 1982.

One Million Notebooks

The Guillermo Gellin Cuban Technical (Paper) Enterprise in the municipality of Cardenas, Matanzas, produced its first million notebooks as part of its economic initiative.

This figure represents one-third of its commitment for June 1983 for which 3,600 hours of volunteer work were allocated.

The 127 youths at this factory which, in the past salute to the Fourth UJC Congress produced 1 million notebooks, ratified their commitment to make 3 million as a salute to 26 July 1983.

These are some of the more than 100 projects that youths throughout the country have planned to salute the 30th anniversary of the Day of National Rebellion.

It is not the first and will not be the last time when they put to test their abilities and carry out the most complex tasks.

They are the followers of the generations of men who, in the centennial year of our National Hero, Jose Marti, began the final liberation of the fatherland and who today build the new society and create the material and technical base of socialism.

These results and those that will surely be completed next year will reaffirm once more the motto of the Cuban youth of yesterday, today and always: study, work and the rifle.

Thirty National Initiatives

Pinar del Rio

The Enrique Troncoso Rice Mill will process 330 TM [metric tons] of rice and 48.7 TM of rice powder and will crush 7.6 TM of hulls.

The small clay parts factory will produce 321,428 ceramic pieces for 321 economic housing units.

Isle of Youth

The youths at the Citrus Complex will process 108 TM of different citrus by-products, 50 kilograms of oil and 100,000 units of metallic packaging.

Havana City

The youths of the Cuban Fishing Fleet will catch and freeze 4,080 tons of different species for domestic consumption and export.

The Cuban Steel Enterprise will cast 120 railroad wheels, 20,000 washers for railroad ties, 250 containers and 6,000 rollers for the sugar collection and preprocessing stations.

Havana

The Ariguanabo Textile Factory will produce 700,000 square meters of cloth, 400 TM of thread and will manufacture 162,000 spare parts.

The Ruben Martinez Villena Textile Enterprise will produce 600,000 square meters of cloth, 320 TM of thread and will restore 2,000 spare parts.

Matanzas

The Guillermo Gellin Paper Enterprise will produce 3 million school notebooks.

The youths of the Oil Drilling and Extraction Enterprise will drill two oil wells.

The Martires de Nancahuazu Tannery will produce 11,260 square meters of leather.

Cienfuegos

The construction workers of the CEN will erect Project No. 57, an acetylene plant.

Sancti Spiritus

The Siguaney Cement Factory will recover 250 TM of steel balls for their mills.

Villa Clara

The 421 youths and UJC members at the mechanical plant in Santa Clara will manufacture 3,100 spare parts for KTP-1 cane combines, recover 500 tons of steel monthly for making rollers and will work on the construction of .5 kilometers of chains for sugar mills.

The construction workers of the Camajuani mill, the impact project of the youth, will build the cold storage area for that investment.

Ciego de Avila

They will build a cephalostat in the electromedical shop which will begin this medical service in the province. This type of radiological examination has to be done in Camaguey at present.

The Indalecio Montejó Factory will manufacture 1,500 spare parts for the next sugar harvest.

Camaguey

The youths of the Eastern Central Division of the railway will make 75 trips on the Fourth Congress Vanguard Train and will transport 35 million ton-kilometers.

In Cane District 8 of the Carlos Manuel de Cespedes Enterprise, they will increase the yield per caballeria from 100,000 to 120,000 arrobas on 4.18 caballerias of cane.

Las Tunas

About 100 TM of metallic structures will be assembled and welded by the youths of that industry.

The soft drink factory in that province will produce 358,000 cases.

Holguin

The White Ceramics Factory will produce 12 TM of Cuban pigments that will replace a similar quantity of imports.

The main shop of the Fernando de Dios Sugar Enterprise will manufacture 3,834 spare parts and will restore 3,200 to meet the needs of the next harvest.

Granma

They will produce 993,200 elements for the manufacture of batteries. They will manufacture another 3,000, recover 300 and will cast 48 tons of lead at the Manzanillo Battery Factory.

The pipe factory in that city will produce 18,970 parts of different types for spray irrigation systems.

Santiago de Cuba

In the cement factory of this city, 87 youths have proposed to produce 20,000 tons of cement as overfulfillment of the technical-economic plan.

The shoe factory in the municipality of Contramaestre will manufacture 150,000 pairs of shoes.

The Pedro Heredia plant will manufacture 87,000 spare parts and will recover 40,000 more as well as repair 70 truck engines.

The Rolando Allud complex will grind 130 TM of coffee.

Guantanamo

The Tool Shaping and Unpolished Metal Articles Enterprise will produce 120,000 blades for KTP-1 combines.

They will produce 3,000 pairs of shoes over the plan at the shoe factory in that province.

7717

CSO: 3248/202

NEW RESOLUTION ON EVALUATION SYSTEM EXPLAINED

Havana JUVENTUD REBELDE in Spanish 14 Oct 82 p 6

[Article by Dulce Maria Hernandez: "Death to Cramming with the New Changes in the School Evaluation System!"; passages enclosed in slantlines printed in boldface]

[Text] The student and the teacher inside the classroom, in the class, make up a dialectic unit. This is one way to describe their interrelationship and the conscious and creative work of both.

Verification and use of the knowledge acquired by the intermediate student based on the systematization in study, assimilation and consolidation under the direction of the teacher or professor are aspects of this topic that we are covering today.

In school work, efficiency--with /promotion/ as its basic indicator--uses /evaluation/ as a basic instrument, the measuring stick of the proposed objectives, capable of diagnosing progress or difficulties in the educational process.

The Resolution on Educational Policy approved at the Second PCC [Communist Party of Cuba] Congress states that in the present educational battle, particular importance is given to the achievement of satisfactory results in promotion. There is special interest in the qualitative aspect of education.

Changes in Evaluation System

Resolution 300/82 goes into effect in the present 1982-83 school year. It takes into account the accumulated experiences* and the present conditions of our development adapted to the present evaluation system without affecting the principles or functions on which this is based.

In this way, adaptations have been introduced to make the Evaluation System more demanding. We already have an evaluation that, adapted to present conditions, will lead to better quality in education.

*Note: Ministerial Resolution 255 put the present system of academic evaluation for the primary and intermediate levels of the National Education System into effect in 1978. Today this is modified and improved by Resolution 300 of 1982.

Let us recall the agreements adopted by the students themselves at their Fifth FEEM [Federation of Middle School Students] Congress. They critically analyzed the need to seek mechanisms to increase demand in the measurement of knowledge and other aspects of the teaching-learning process for the student as well as for the professor.

We can point out that this evolution of the school evaluation lets us see clearly and concretely how the principles of dialectic development govern socialist pedagogy, demonstrating its scientific basis once more.

Let Us Look at Three Concrete Aspects

One of the basic changes is a greater requirement in student attendance at classes.

When a student has been absent more than 5 percent of a course, his case must be analyzed by the Leadership Council of the center which will determine his right to take partial, final or extraordinary tests.

This implies that the student cannot be negligent. He must present justification to the center and explain the reason for his absence even when he misses only one class. Based on the explanation and analysis of the excuse, the school will determine whether the absence is justified.

In the past, a student was officially permitted to miss up to 10 percent but this was not always watched in some centers. Justification may or may not have existed but, at the time of the evaluation, absentee students were sitting in the chairs.

Logically, one learns in class. If a student who misses class does not study enough and comes to an evaluation poorly prepared, he diminishes the quality of learning.

The directors of the centers are responsible for strict compliance with the guidelines. The cases analyzed in the Leadership Council must be backed well-grounded and verified if necessary and must refer to some illness accredited by a medical certificate, very serious family problems and other problems accredited by a letter from the CDR [Committee for the Defense of the Revolution]. Of course, a primary student will never be evaluated like an intermediate student. A primary student always has his situation conditioned by his parents and relatives. An adolescent develops independence to a certain degree and, at his age, is acquiring personal responsibilities independent from his parents.

Absences will go into the Student Accumulative File each semester even when the cause is justified. According to the School Regulation, a student can be punished educationally after analysis of his case if there is repetition, lack of interest or negligence, whether or not he loses the right to take the tests. This is very important to the evaluation of the collective.

No Second Chances on CS

Based on the principles of the Evaluation System, the teachers give the corresponding tests on units or parts of units. This helps gradual assimilation and absorption of the contents and controls quality in education. From now on, though, this will be done only once.

/A substantial modification is that second CS [Systematic Evaluation] tests have been eliminated./

We already see our more concerned students more glued to their books and more personally responsible for their studies and class work. They tell their parents that they cannot miss even a single day of class.

Without question, the positive effect is visible. The reaction has been favorable. The youth knows that if he obtained a low grade in these evaluations, it was because he did not make sufficient effort. He loses points irretrievably. In the past, the student was accommodated: "If I fail this, I will repeat it." He frequently went to the first test poorly prepared, counting on a second chance to pass more easily.

The above does not mean that if a student obtains a bad grade in these tests, the professors sit back. The correct reaction is to direct the necessary work so that the student makes up for the deficiencies. Just because the student already has that grade does not mean that the professor must stop doing the corresponding individual or collective work. This content will be evaluated again even more broadly and more in depth in the partial and final tests.

Third Aspect

Our students know now that the grade they receive in the systematic evaluation has a decisive weight in their final grade. They have already stopped calling the systematic evaluations "little class projects."

Another aspect to consider is that, for the final tests of the second semester or the first (if the course is only one semester), it /is required as a minimum to obtain 30 of the 50 points on it/ for the academic result of the entire course to be valid and the student to pass.

Some students, having good grades in systematic evaluations and partial tests, rested on their laurels and did not make the final effort required. In other cases, having obtained few points in the accumulated tests, they managed to pass by cramming. The quality of learning was hurt.

Now, even with a good accumulative grade, they must prepare adequately for the final. Therefore, promotion plays its decisive role and quality is not lacking in education.

In conclusion, let us look at three basic matters: /daily attendance at class, elimination of unjustified absences and accreditation of justified absences to the Leadership Council of the school/.

There must be systematic, daily study. They must obtain the maximum grade in the systematic evaluations because there are no other opportunities; there is no second chance. They must remember that, even if a student has passed his first semester, he will not be promoted if he does not obtain at least 30 of the 50 points on the final test of the second semester.

The school, the directors and educators have all their guidelines from the summer seminars and the obligation to make students, parents and relatives aware of these changes. We must address them. We must be closer to our children's school this year and be their true study comrade to make them feel helped, stimulated and more secure facing the new demands that affect their life as a student.

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CSO: 3248/202

BRIEFS

OFFICIAL VISIT TO ALGERIA--The fertile valley of (Misiglia), one of Algeria's most important agricultural regions, was visited on Wednesday by Cuban Agriculture Minister Arnaldo Milian, member of the Cuban Communist Party Politburo. Milian is on the 3d day of an official visit to the democratic and popular Republic of Algeria. During his visit, Milian has traveled to several places and met with different leaders of this north African Arab nation. On Wednesday Milian and his party visited dairy and poultry farms and an institute for livestock genetic development. Milian and his party left Algiers this morning to visit several places of economic and historic interest in Algeria's interior. [Text] [FL181404 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 18 Nov 82]

GDR FRIENDSHIP TIES WITH HAVANA--In Berlin, GDR National Defense Minister Army Gen Heinz Hoffman pointed out that the fraternal friendship with Cuba is of particular importance for his country. In an interview granted to the GDR magazine HORIZONT, Hoffman said that friendship with Cuba is so important precisely because at the present time the U.S. Government is conducting a world crusade against the Soviet Union and other socialist states. Referring to his recent visit to Cuba, Hoffman indicated that the U.S. Government is trying to annihilate the forces of social progress in Central America and the Caribbean, but he is firmly convinced that such attempts will fail. Hoffman told the GDR magazine that the development of friendly ties with our homeland is of special importance for the GDR. [Text] [FL182015 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1904 GMT 18 Nov 82]

SPANISH POLITICAL EVENTS--Lt Gen (Emilio Garcia Conde), commander of the Spanish Air Force, stated in a message to the members of the air force that it is necessary to make efforts to counteract the people's belief that the armed forces are the instigators of continuous unrest as well as the potential perpetrators of violent coups that bring only death, arrests and abuses. The general rejected the idea of a military power and a civilian power. He said that there is only one power that has different ingredients. The anticoup message, which has been seen as an event without precedent in Spain's history, is in line with statements made by Lt Gen (Jose Saenz), commander of the Cataluna military region. (Saenz) has confirmed his loyalty to the recently elected socialist government, which he characterized as legitimate since it represents the will of the people. (Saenz) said that recent coup attempts in Spain were disgraceful and insane. He said that such coups do not represent the general attitude of the armed forces and cannot be excused with the pretext of a fight

against terrorism. Meanwhile, Lt Gen (Miguel Martinez Vara Del Rey), commander of the Spanish Air Combat Command, said that the army will obey the order to abandon NATO if the people so decide in a plebiscite. He said that the Spanish Socialist Party's defense program will be accepted completely since it comes from a government elected by the people at the polls. [Text] [PA221940 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 22 Nov 82]

SOCIALIST LAWYERS VISIT--Heads of delegations participating in the 21st CEMA Conference on Legal Affairs have visited the headquarters of the National Union of Cuban Lawyers in Havana. The representatives of socialist countries who are participating in the conference, which ends tomorrow, Friday, were received by Francisco Varona Duque de Estrada, president of the National Union of Cuban Lawyers, and other officials. [Text] [FL181503 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1416 GMT 18 Nov 82]

TEACHERS RETURNING FROM NICARAGUA--The international elementary school teachers who are serving in the sister nation of Nicaragua will begin returning to Cuba tomorrow, 20 November. More than 200 teachers will arrive every day on two flights at the Jose Marti International Airport, which will make it possible for all of them to be back in Cuba by 28 November. [Text] [FL191310 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1232 GMT 19 Nov 82]

ICAP DELEGATION TO FRG--A delegation from the Cuban Institute of Friendship with Peoples--ICAP--Headed by ICAP Vice President Mario Rodriguez today met in Bonn with members of the presidency of the FRG-Cuba Friendship Association. During the meeting they reviewed the preparations for the biennial assembly of association delegates which is slated to be held this Saturday and Sunday in Hamburg with the participation of numerous specially invited guests from Western Europe. [Excerpt] [FL110255 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2107 GMT 11 Nov 82]

NEW DPRK AMBASSADOR--Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Council of State, today received the credentials of Pak Yong-ae, DPRK ambassador to Cuba. [FL130315 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 13 Nov 82]

NEW AMBASSADOR TO TURKEY--Cuba's Council of State has appointed Comrade Ramon Pez Ferro to fill the post of Cuban ambassador to Turkey. Pez Ferro's last post was ambassador to Jamaica. [FL171840 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 17 Nov 82]

HEALTH AID TO ANGOLA--The international edition of the newspaper VERDE OLIVO, which is edited in Luanda, includes in its latest issue a statement by Felix Nieto, director of the Antituberculosis Center in that capital, as well as statements by patients and personnel in the hospital, in which they praise the services rendered by the Cuban personnel in that center. Cuban professionals have been working in the center since 1976. [PA180727 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 17 Nov 82]

MONGOLIAN INDEPENDENCE ANNIVERSARY--The Cuban Institute of Friendship with the Peoples [ICAP] has hosted a political and cultural ceremony on the occasion of the Mongolian People's Republic Independence Anniversary on 26 November. The event

mony was attended by MPR ambassador to Cuba Bombosurenguin Dashdavaa and Mongolian students in Cuba. Francisco Pividal Padron, vice president of the Cuba-Mongol Friendship Association, referred to Mongolia's great political, economic and social achievements, which have provided the country with a strong socialism. The ceremony also commemorated the 20th anniversary of the Cuba-Mongol Friendship Association. [FL192030 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 19 Nov 82]

MEDICAL SPECIALISTS IN BENIN--More than 100 Cuban specialists are currently working in Benin as a result of bilateral cooperation agreements in health, education, fishery, trade and tourism. Cuban specialists work in surgery, pediatrics, gynecology, obstetrics, pharmacology, radiology, clinical laboratory work, nursing and stomatology, as well as in training personnel in these fields. [PA201640 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 19 Nov 82]

SOLIDARITY WITH COSTA RICA--An event in solidarity with the Costa Rican banana workers was held on Thursday at the Cuban Enterprise for Diverse Crops [Empresa Cubana de Cultivos Varios] in the municipality of Artemisa, Havana Province. During the event, the criminal policy implemented at the banana plantations and the Costa Rican banana workers' subhuman living conditions were denounced. The Cuban agricultural workers' total support for the Costa Rican' fair demand for a wage increase and a halt to the firing was also reiterated. [Text] [PA201646 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 19 Nov 82]

CDR MEDAL--Guillermo Garcia Frias, commander of the revolution and minister of transportation; Justice Minister Osvaldo Dorticos Torrado and Jorge Risquet Valdes, all members of the Cuban Communist Party Politburo, were presented the 28 September Order this afternoon. Maria Teresa Malmierca, national vice coordinator of the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution [CDR], stated that in fulfillment of law decree No 30 of 1979 of the Republic of Cuba, the highest CDR award is conferred on those who, with their long, rich and brilliant political and revolutionary work, have become worthy of it. By resolution of the CDR National Executive Secretariat, the medals were pinned on Guillermo Garcia, Osvaldo Dorticos and Jorge Risquet by Armando Acosta Cordero, alternate member of the Politburo and national coordinator of the CDR. The solemn ceremony was held at the CDR main offices. Following the award ceremony, the Politburo members who received the medals held a fraternal meeting with the members of the National Secretariat of the mass organization. The 28 September Order is bestowed on Cuban citizens who have excelled or excel in CDR tasks. [FL170149 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 17 Nov 82]

ANGOLAN DELEGATION VISIT--A delegation from the People's Republic of Angola headed by (Antero Abreu Ersedosa), attorney general and deputy of the people's assembly of that fraternal country, today visited the public prosecutor's office of the city of Havana Province. The delegation was received by (Jesus Garcia), chief prosecutor. During the meeting they exchanged notes on the structure and work in the province and its municipalities. [Text] [FL110255 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1904 GMT 11 Nov 82]

CEMA DELEGATION CHIEFS--Osvaldo Dorticos, member of the party Politburo and minister of justice, has received the chiefs of the delegations participating in the 21st CEMA Juridical Conference. The meeting was attended by representatives from the Soviet Union, Bulgaria, Hungary, Mongolia, GDR, Romania, Poland and Czechoslovakia. During the meeting, held in a cordial and friendly atmosphere. They discussed legal questions applicable to relations between CEMA member countries. [Text] [FL191520 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 19 Nov 82]

LABOR LEADER'S DEATH--Isidro Figuerola, distinguished labor leader and revolutionary, founder of the first Marxist-Leninist Party in Cuba, has died at 78 in Havana. A friend and fighting companion of Ruben Martinez Villena, Figuerola was part of the leadership of the first Marxist Party and participated in the revolutionary events of 1930. [FL161350 Havana Domestic Television Spanish 1226 GMT 16 Nov 82]

REVERSING HISTORY'S FORWARD MARCH--At the United Nations, Cuba has asserted that the resurgence of irrational trends and the imperialist circles' senseless efforts to reverse history's forward march have placed the world at a dangerous juncture. In a special speech during the debates of the UN General Assembly, Cuban ambassador to that world body Raul Roa Kouri also referred to the critical situation of the world economy. He said that added to all this, there is the worsening situation in the Middle East as a result of the Israeli invasion of Lebanon and the unspeakable massacres of Palestinian civilians in that country. In addition, Roa Kouri referred to the continued aggressions by South Africa against the so-called frontline countries and its maneuvers aimed at frustrating Namibia's independence. Likewise, Roa reaffirmed Cuba's support for Argentina's sovereign rights over the Malvinas Islands as well as our country's support for the Puerto Rican people's struggle for independence. [Text] [FL231433 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 23 Nov 82]

CSO: 3248/253

BISHOP SEES MAJOR VICTORY IN CARICOM SUMMIT

FL230100 Bridgetown CANA in English 1837 GMT 22 Nov 82

[By George Worme]

[Excerpts] St Georges, Grenada, 22 Nov, CANA--Grenada's Prime Minister Maurice Bishop says the recent Caribbean (CARICOM) summit in Jamaica had scored a major victory for his government and the island's revolution.

Addressing a government rally in St Georges last night, Bishop said Grenada's detractors had been soundly defeated and the Grenada delegation "fully" achieved what it had set out to do at the Ocho Rios talks.

"We have decided that all we had to do at this conference was not to allow ourselves to be side-tracked into mudslinging matches with the agents of imperialism," the Grenada leader declared.

He added: "We have decided not to allow ourselves to be drawn by any kinds of red herrings which were being thrown and not to allow ourselves to get involved in any divisiveness, but instead to concentrate and focus on the real needs of the people of the Caribbean."

"Our plan to propose and to support steps to strengthen practical cooperation among the people of the region received widespread support. Our plan to ensure that regardless of whatever else happens that CARICOM survive was massively successful," Bishop told the rally.

"Our intention of ensuring that regardless of what happens...among the people of Jamaica and the people of the region that we preserve the image and the reputation of our revolution, in that also we had a massive success," he added.

The Grenada leader accused two regional heads, Prime Minister Adams and Bordaberry and Prime Minister Edward Seaga of Jamaica, of opposing a number of issues which, he said had already been accepted by leading regional organisations.

He mentioned ideological pluralism in the Caribbean and the question of having the region declared as a zone of peace as two examples. Bishop said the two leaders were advocating that ideological pluralism was not a principle which could be accepted in CARICOM. They were also opposed to have the Caribbean declared a zone of peace, he also charged.

CSO: 3298/1143

BISHOP SAYS ELECTIONS WILL HAVE TO WAIT

FL170009 Bridgetown CANA in English 2246 GMT 16 Nov 82

[By Paget Defreitas]

[Text] Ocho Rios, Jamaica, 16 Nov, CANA--Grenada, where the government came to power in a coup 42 months ago, would support a Barbados initiative to insert a human rights clause in the treaty governing the operations of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), Prime Minister Bishop said here today.

But he added that his eastern Caribbean state, one of 12 in the community, would not bow to any pressure to hold general elections any earlier than planned.

Bishop's comments, at a news conference here, came in the wake of a much publicised proposal by Barbados Prime Minister Tom Adams to seek at the CARICOM heads of government summit, which opened today, an amendment to the treaty to commit member states to upholding human rights.

"There is just about nothing in that amendment we are likely to oppose," Bishop told a news conference. "What we would like to see, though, is that the pre-ambular change is more concrete. It must deal with the number one right, which is the right to life."

Bishop listed another of other rights which should also be enshrined in the treaty, including the right to a job, the right to join trade unions, the right that no worker could be laid off before consultations with his union, the right not to have wages legislated, and rights that would prevent governments from selling off state enterprises without consulting employees.

"These are some of the rights that people should look at," the Grenada leader said.

The proposed Barbados amendment actually seeks to commit CARICOM states to "the principle of political liberty and the protection of the fundamental rights and freedoms of the individual through adherence to the principles of the rule of law and the practice of free and fair regular elections."

Adoption of the amendment would require a unanimous decision of the summit.

Bishop made it clear, however, that no pressure brought by his CARICOM colleagues at the summit would force the PRG to hold elections before it felt the time was right, and stressed that the Westminster system was finished in Grenada.

"No amount of outside pressure of any form or type is going to force the people of Grenada to speed up their agenda for election," he said.

He went on: "Grenada will never again see Westminster parliamentary elections, that is dead in our country."

Bishop made no apologies for the fact there were political detainees in Grenada.

He said that "every revolution creates dislocation."

He said, however, that where warranted, detainees were being freed, and charges were being brought against others.

Just before he left Grenada Sunday 25 detainees had been processed for release, he disclosed.

CSO: 3298/1143

GRENADA'S BISHOP COMMENTS ON DEMOCRACY, ELECTIONS

FL201700 Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English 17 Nov 82 p 1

[By Marcia Erskine]

[Text] Ocho Rios, 16 Nov--Grenada will never again see the Westminster type of parliamentary democracy as long as the Peoples Revolutionary Government (PRG) holds the reins of power in Grenada, Prime Minister Maurice Bishop said.

Now attending the third CARICOM heads of governments conference, Prime Minister Bishop told reporters that such a system has no relevance to Grenada and he did not see why they should accept this form of government simply because Grenada was once a colony of Britain and Britain accepts this system.

Mr Bishop said he defines democracy as including tenets of accountability and responsibility of a government to the people they serve, participation of the people in policy formation process and the provision of benefits and jobs for the people.

Consequently, Mr Bishop said the PRG Government feels that basic amenities such as health care, education and basic services such as electricity and water are priorities to which any "democratic government" should address itself.

Mr Bishop said that the PRG is not unprepared nor unwilling to say that election is a part of democracy but that democracy cannot only be confined to elections "where it is a question of whether twiddledum can fool twiddledee and the person who can share out the most rum and corned beef wins.

"No outside pressure of any form or type will get the people of Grenada to advance their agenda for election unless it is clear that the people of Grenada wish this," Mr Bishop said.

Prime Minister who came to power in a coup in 1979, told reporters that the PRG is concentrating on priorities such as the provision of food, justice, jobs and amenities for the Grenadian people.

He said "We are clear that the question of election is a call you make for those you feel you cannot suppress and get to do your bidding.

"The main issue, as I see it, is not election but what you stand for, what you are trying to do for your people and how you try to be independent."

Mr Bishop said that the proposed amendment to the preamble of the CARICOM Treaty to include questions of human rights and democratic principles "was not an attempt to deal with the question of human rights but an attempt to introduce into a treaty primarily set up for trade clauses that aimed at isolating one country in particular--Grenada."

He said however that in as far as he understands the amendment being proposed "there is nothing that we are inclined to oppose" but he would like to see included other issues as well. He said to make it even more concrete the amendment should include clauses on the right to life, to jobs, to form and join trade unions, to restrict lay-offs unless first discussed with the people and to restrict the sale of public enterprises before such consultations along with the right to amenities such as electricity and water.

"With these real issues which concern the people included, we'll go along with it."

Mr Bishop suggested that CARICOM should appoint a pool of sociologists, pollsters and technocrats to go to every member state and conduct investigations into human rights and publish the findings.

He described the Grenadian revolution of 1979 as "the most humanitarian in the world."

Mr Bishop said that all resolutions involve some dislocation and rather than deal with counterrevolutionaries by shooting them out in the hills and claiming it was an ambush or accident, like some governments do "our course is to detain those that are a threat to the revolution; until when it is deemed relatively safe, to allow these people back into society."

Mr Bishop said there is no likelihood of Grenada voluntarily bowing out of CARICOM and he knows of no law that can expel them.

"We will work for CARICOM because we feel it is good for the region," he said.

CSO: 3298/1143

BISHOP ACCUSES U.S. OF 'CULTURAL IMPERIALISM'

FL221559 Bridgetown CANA in English 1848 GMT 21 Nov 82

[Text] St Georges, Grenada, 21 Nov, CANA--The Grenadian prime minister, Maurice Bishop, has accused the United States administration of President Ronald Reagan of attempting to strengthen its "cultural imperialism" in the Caribbean.

Addressing a meeting here of Caribbean and Latin American intellectuals focusing on culture and sovereignty in the Caribbean, Mr Bishop disclosed that there was a document being prepared for the Reagan administration outlining a strategy to impose a new form of cultural imperialism on Caribbean intellectuals.

He said that in the document it was pointed out that education was the only medium culture retains, passes on and pioneers the past and as such whoever controls the education system will determine how the past and future are viewed.

He said the forces behind the document suggested that a campaign should be launched by the United States immediately to capture the intellectual elite through radio, television, books articles and pamphlets, fellowships and prizes since recognition is what most intellectuals crave and that such a programme will attract them.

The prime minister said it was clear from the document being prepared that the Reagan administration perceives Caribbean intellectuals as persons up for sale or persons who can be briefed by offers of scholarships, grants and by opportunities for publication of their work.

"We wish, if it were possible, to make this document known to every teacher at all levels throughout our region because we need no further definition of cultural imperialism than these strategies which are outlined in the document," he added.

Mr Bishop said that even in the so-called Western world there were now "concerned and conscious" citizens looking on with horror at the contamination of the minds of the young people by the headquarters of imperialism, a term used by the Grenada Government to describe the United States.

He said that in the region itself, the culture of the Caribbean people has always been stifled and never allowed to develop to the point where it could become the bulmark of the sovereignty of the people.

"There is no region that presents so dramatic a picture of the process of cultural imperialism as does the Caribbean.

"The Caribbean is a veritable laboratory of cultural imperialism because it offers such ideal conditions," he said.

"Our geographic fragmentation, aided and abetted by continuing political fragmentation, which in turn is one of the major objectives of cultural imperialism, is helping to keep us well and truly apart, and if possible always at each others throat so that we might never come to realise the strengths that lie in our unity," he added.

The conference is being attended by over 20 writers, artists, poets, journalists, scholars, historians and musicians from a number of Caribbean countries including Jamaica, Guyana, Dominica, Antigua, Puerto Rico and Trinidad and Tobago.

It is being jointly sponsored by the permanent committee of intellectuals in defence of the sovereignty of the peoples of the Americas and the people's revolutionary government (PRG) of Grenada.

CSO: 3298/1143

BISHOP MAKES 'NO APOLOGY' TO CONTROL PRESS

FL221527 Bridgetown CANA in English 1649 GMT 21 Nov 82

[Text] St Georges, Grenada, 21 Nov, CANA--Grenada, where the news media is state-owned and publication of new newspapers is not allowed, will never again be controlled by the media, Prime Minister Maurice Bishop has said.

"We make no apology for interpreting the freedom of the press in free Grenada to mean liberating every possible medium of communication from the stranglehold of a minority which in turn is manipulated by powerful interests," Mr Bishop said yesterday.

"We make no apology for moving swiftly and with the consent of the majority of our people to silence our local representatives of the reactionary press."

The prime minister's peoples revolutionary government (PRG), which took power after a 1979 leftwing coup, first closed down the TORCHLIGHT newspaper, and last year closed the independent GRENADIAN VOICE newspaper after one publication.

The second edition of the paper was seized by security personnel before it could reach the news stand and the owners of the paper were accused of being connected with U.S. intelligence.

They were also accused of trying to undermine the revolution, and of ignoring a government ban on the publication of newspapers until the PRG has published its media policy.

The paper in its only publication had said it was looking forward to the PRG's promise of early, free and fair elections and said that it would be important that the government showed freedom was not just for certain sections.

Mr Bishop described the regional media as "mongrels wagging their tails for their masters."

He said they produced indetical editorials, lies, headlines and punctuation, all offloaded from the same factory and transported over 5,000 miles to the "free press" in the region.

Grenada, he said, "will have none of it."

CSO: 3298/1143

GRENADA'S BISHOP COMMENTS ON BARBADOS INITIATIVE

FL191630 Bridgetown CANA in English 1336 GMT 19 Nov 82

[By Paget Defreitas]

[Text] Ocho Rios, Jamaica, 19 Nov, CANA--Grenada's prime minister, Maurice Bishop, described as a success the 3-day summit of Caribbean Community (CARICOM) leaders which ended last night in this north coast Jamaica town of Ocho Rios.

"We have addressed the real issues and the concerns the people have in the region," Bishop said yesterday before the issuing early today of the conference communique.

"I think we have come up with some ideas of how we can move forward, and I think, therefore, in that sense one could say with all honesty that the conference has been a success," he added.

The Grenada leader did not think much of a Barbados initiative to have inserted in the CARICOM Treaty a clause that would require member states to adhere to free and fair elections within a parliamentary system as well as uphold human rights.

The initiative was seen as aimed at Grenada, the only CARICOM member that does not have an elected government. the Bishop regime came to power in 1979 following the armed overthrow of the Eric Gairy government.

"I think it was a totally superficial issue," he said of the Barbados initiative, which failed to carry in the form that Prime Minister Tom Adams wanted.

Instead, the conference issued a declaration of Ocho Rios which affirmed CARICOM's commitment to human rights as embraced in international charters, but without any pointed reference about the need to hold elections.

Mr Bishop has already left for home.

CSO: 3298/1143

TORRENTIAL RAIN DAMAGE ASSESSED

Guatemala DIARIO DE CENTRO AMERICA in Spanish 14 Oct 82 p 6

[Text] The southern coastal area and several departments in the central and eastern portions of the country suffered considerable damage to production-related facilities as a result of heavy rains that struck this nation last 18 and 19 September. In addition, there was great loss of life, and a total of 609 deaths was reported, along with a great number of injured and missing.

The magnitude of the disaster was particularly great in the agricultural sector, and production facilities were especially hard hit since the storm struck just prior to harvest time in this country.

Preliminary overall estimates of losses and costs of repairs and replacements of damaged areas are approximately 46,163,400 quetzals.

The greatest losses were in the farming and livestock sector, amounting to 72.5 percent of the total. In descending order of importance the transportation sector had 9.1 percent of the damage, housing 8.2 percent, energy 6.6 percent, and urban development, communications, health, and education were affected to a lesser degree.

Extent

The effects of the storm that hit this country were widespread and were especially felt in the Departments of Escuintla, Santa Rosa, Sachitepequez, Jalapa, and Jutiapa and in the towns of San Miguel Petapa and Villa Canales de Guatemala, Ocos, Tecun Uman, Malacatan, and Catarina de San Marcos, Coatepeque, Genova, and El Palmar in Quetzaltenango, covering a total area of 19,176 square kilometers.

Loss of Life

The figures reported by the National Emergency Committee on the loss of life and other damage reveal that the departments hardest hit were Santa Rosa and Jutiapa. The former had the highest percentage of deaths, with 65 percent, injured 58.6 percent, and missing 75.4 percent; in the latter, deaths amounted to 33.5 percent of the total, injured 41.4 percent, and missing 24.5 percent.

Regarding those who were left homeless and are now refugees, Jutiapa had 37.4 percent, Quetzaltenango 30.3 percent, Jalapa and Santa Rosa had a lower, but no less important, percentage of damage.

At the township level the greatest loss of human life occurred in Chiquimulilla, with 52 percent, Jutiapa 33 percent, Moyuta 14 percent; the remaining 2% occurred in other localities.

The number of dead by department is as follows: San Marcos 5, Santa Rosa 399, Jalapa 5, and Jutiapa 200; injured: Santa Rosa 150 and Jutiapa 106.

Missing: Santa Rosa 504 and Jutiapa 164; refugees: San Marcos 405, Quetzaltenango 3,000, Escuintla 348, Santa Rosa 1,178, Jalapa 1,492, Jutiapa 3,706, and Guatemala 115, for a total of 10,244 persons.

The greatest loss of life occurred in Chiquimulilla, with 315, next Moyuta with 85, Zapotitlan 51, Asuncion Mita 40, San Rafael 39, Pueblo Nuevo Vinas 14, and lesser figures in other districts.

Material Losses

The damage reported to utilities in the affected area was mostly to the supply of potable water used in several districts.

The total amount of damage in urban areas was approximately 860,000 quetzales, although surveys are still proceeding.

These are being conducted by INFOM [Municipal Development Institute], especially in rural areas.

Damage to aqueducts and water mains amounted to 460,000 quetzals, and drains 10,000 quetzals; while slaughterhouses and markets escaped damage, municipal buildings suffered damage valued at 290,000 quetzals.

Farming and Livestock

According to estimates, damage to basic grain crops in the areas affected by the storm are calculated at 16,500,000 quetzals; sorghum was the hardest hit crop with losses in the coming harvest reaching 25.8 percent.

These losses were especially heavy in the Departments of Jutiapa, Jalapa, and Santa Rosa.

The damage to coffee plants was comparatively light, amounting to 25,000 quetzals; sesame seed plantations lost 1,100,000 quetzals, and banana and papaya plantation losses are estimated at 1,810,000 quetzals.

Vegetables

Losses were reported in tomato, red pepper, cucumber, and onion crops covering an area of 112 hectares, in an amount estimated at 546,000 quetzals.

Other Crops

Losses were also suffered by tobacco and peanut crops totaling 889,000 quetzals. Total losses in agriculture from the effects of the storm were approximately 21 million quetzals.

Cattle

According to information provided by the Office of Livestock Services (DIGESEPE), reported losses include cattle, livestock installations, fishing facilities, and others of lesser significance in this area.

Regarding the amount of the losses, the greatest impact was on cattle and amounted to approximately 2,073,000 quetzals, involving 6,900 steers. Fowl losses were 97,064 units, valued at 381,300 quetzals.

Total losses in agricultural production have been estimated at 25,402,900 quetzals, with approximately 86 percent of the damage in crops and the remaining 14 percent in livestock.

Agricultural Installations

Eight irrigation systems, covering 6,234 hectares, were damaged, with losses totaling 497,600 quetzals.

Livestock Installations

Cattle installations at the ranch level also suffered considerable damage, including large and small ranches and lot operations.

Total losses are approximately 5,251,000 quetzals.

Losses in fishing facilities were approximately 1,207,700 quetzals, of which 1,193,700 were in maritime fishing and the remainder in support equipment.

Transportation

Damages suffered in transportation will cost 4,450,400 to replace. These occurred especially to roads and bridges.

Losses to railroads, according to information furnished by FEGUA [Guatemala National Railways], amounted to 72,900 quetzals.

Ports

Damage to the wharf at Puerto San Jose was approximately 140,900 quetzals, consisting solely of repairs to a single access road to the wharf.

Communications

The greatest damage reported in the communications sector was to the telephone system, which amounts to 30,700 quetzals.

With regard to the telegraph system, material losses were approximately 538,500 quetzals as 400 kilometers of telegraph lines were totally or partially destroyed in the area hit by the storm.

Energy

The most significant damage occurred to the hydroelectric plant belonging to AGUACAPA, where the building housing the machinery was inundated by floodwaters from the river. Cost of repairs is estimated at 2,650,000 quetzals. Damage to the Los Esclavos hydroelectric plant was approximately 295,000 quetzals.

Health

Regarding health services, floods resulting from the storm affected facilities that provide health care to the population to a limited extent, and damage is estimated at 92,000 quetzals.

Housing

Available reports show 1,026 houses were destroyed and 1,326 dwellings partially damaged, signifying an investment of 4,006,800 quetzals.

The hardest hit department was Jutiapa, where 1,086 houses were damaged and 863 dwellings totally destroyed, representing an investment of 3,347,900 quetzals for that department alone.

9015

CSO: 3248/212

BRIEFS

OFFICIALS' TRIP TO ARGENTINA, CHILE--Julio P. Matheu, minister of economy, described as optimum the results of his recent trip to Argentina and Chile at the head of a mixed group of government officials and private sector leaders. The purpose of the trip, he stated, was primarily to find new markets for Guatemalan exports and of course to seek closer commercial ties with those countries. Positive results were achieved, he asserted, and they will be put into practice by the end of this year with the marketing of coffee, mostly. The minister made these statements during a press conference held in his office at the National Palace. He added that during its stay in Buenos Aires the mission had the opportunity to talk with members of the government and the private sector, and a trade agreement was signed providing for the export of Guatemalan products, especially coffee and sugar. Actually, said Mr Matheu, the trip to Santiago, Chile, was not included in the plans, but it was necessary to take advantage of its proximity to Argentina for the same reasons. Positive results were obtained there also. He said abundant information was supplied on this country's export products and therefore a promising future for the Guatemalan economy is expected. [Text] [Guatemala DIARIO DE CENTRO AMERICA in Spanish 13 Oct 82 p 6] 9015

EXPORT FIGURES--Ronaldo Porta Espana, manager of GUATEXPRO stated yesterday that export products to date have generated over \$200 million in foreign exchange, which is one of the goals set by the government during what it has called the "period of emergency." The Ministry of Economy and GUATEXPRO, with the concurrence of various firms that produce for export, will expedite procedures in order to place traditional and nontraditional products in various markets with the aim of generating \$360 millions by the end of the year. "This means," he emphasized, "that if the goal is not reached, we will at least come close to bringing in about \$360 million. The manager of GUATEXPRO pointed out that the goal also includes sales to traditional customer nations and opening new markets in countries that have not had commercial ties with our country. Thus GUATEXPRO proposes to export over 800 new products, in addition to the traditional ones, to Canada, the United States, the Caribbean, South America, and Europe and is exploring ways to do the same in Asia and the Middle East. [Text] [Guatemala PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 21 Oct 82 p 4] 9015

CSO: 3248/212

BISHOP CRITICIZED FOR REMARKS ON NATIONALIZATION

Calls State 'Bad Administrator'

Mexico City UNOMASUNO in Spanish 28 Oct 82 p 4

[Article by Macario Lozano]

[Text] Toluca, Mex., 27 Oct--The bishop of the Toluca diocese, Alfredo Torres Romero, today criticized the nationalization of banks and called the state "a bad administrator." "As proof," he cited the conditions of the oil and electric power industries and railroads.

The prelate spoke at a press conference where he made public a document called "The Catholic Facing the Present Sociopolitical Predicament." It indicates that Mexico is facing the most critical situation in its contemporary history. It warns that the state is overestimating its function and acts as if it were the supreme force of the people and the absolute force in social life. The growing centralism is contrary to the rights and obligations that intermediate groups and societies should exercise.

In the text, the bishop feels that human rights, justice, service for the common good, priority attention to the dispossessed, honesty in administration and in economic activity and many other respected values leave much to be desired in practice in Mexico.

Bishop Torres Romero advocates a social doctrine and the need for solidarity, the common good and authenticity.

Violation of Constitution Charged

Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 29 Oct 82 p 3

[Article by Edmundo Cancino Gomez]

[Text] Toluca, Mex., 28 Oct--State deputies of the PRI [Institutional Revolutionary Party], PSUM [Unified Socialist Party of Mexico] and PPS [Popular Socialist Party] energetically condemned the bishop of Toluca, Alfredo Torres Romero, today after Bishop Antonio Garcia Lovera [as published] spoke out against the nationalization of banks yesterday in a press conference.

The chairman of the local legislature's standing committee, PRI member Mario Ruiz de Chavez, said that the Toluca bishop's statements were completely contrary to the spirit of the Constitution. He revealed that he was against them.

He pointed out that accusing the state of being a bad administrator is an unsuitable stand for a bishop and repeated that this violates the Constitution.

Hector Marin Rebollo, PPS legislator, said in the local court that the Toluca bishop violated Article 130 of the Constitution by stating that the state is a bad administrator and that the nationalization of banks endangers the religious society.

He announced that tomorrow a request to apply the religion law against the Toluca bishop will be presented to the local Secretariat of Government and the federal secretariat because he strongly criticized President Lopez-Portillo's nationalist measures.

Tonatiuh Mercado, PSUM representative in the legislature, said that the Toluca bishop's statements once more confirmed the managerial and reactionary stand of the clergy.

He explained that not all the sectors of the church are reactionary and gave as examples the bishops of Oaxaca and Chiapas. Concerning Bishop Alfredo Torres Romero, he said that an energetic call is needed to keep him from continuing to mock Article 130 of the Constitution.

Antonio Garcia Lovera, secretary general of the CTM [Confederation of Mexican Workers] in Valle de Toluca, energetically accused the church for trying to belittle President Lopez-Portillo's nationalist measures.

He explained that the stand of certain reactionary unions against nationalist measures is understandable but the church violates the Constitution and that is "very serious."

That night Leopoldo Velasco Mercado, secretary of government, commented on the Toluca bishop's statements. He said that the law clearly established separation between church and state and the Constitution is clear on the ban against ministers of any religion making statements on any social law or any political event.

Concerning a possible sanction against Alfredo Torres Romero, he noted that, according to the spirit of the law, this would be done by the federal government.

Alfredo Torres Romero, bishop of the city of Toluca, convoked a press conference yesterday with the objective of reporting on the church's indignation against the measures nationalizing the banks. This press conference was reprinted in eight columns in the main local newspapers under headlines like "The state a poor administrator" and Miguel de la Madrid is the hope of the country.

He said that the country is on the road to totalitarianism and that the function of the state has been overestimated. It is intervening in all aspects of life which affects the freedom and dignity of man.

Later the bishop indicated that, throughout the history of Mexico, expropriations by the state have led to financial losses since it has administered them poorly. He predicted that the nationalization of the banks would be a resounding failure and said that freedom gets lost along this road of nationalization.

He also said that the church has hope in the president-elect of Mexico, Miguel de la Madrid Hurtado, especially his thesis of the moral renewal of society.

At the end of his statements, Torres Romero noted that the ministers of the church are not advocates of wealth and "at no time do we intervene in politics."

7717

CSO: 3248/223

NEW BOOK PRESENTS DANGERS OF FOREIGN INVESTMENT

Nationalization Program Urged

Mexico City PROCESO in Spanish 25 Oct 82 pp 6-9

[Article by Carlos Ramirez: "Foreign Investment, Rapacious and Denationalizing"]

[Text] Facing pressure from those who ask for the tap of foreign investment to be opened indiscriminately, the results of 10 years of decontrol of foreign capital reflect the turmoil caused in the Mexican economy by money that came in search of productive businesses and profit paradises, not joint investments. Experience shows that behavior codes are in "etiquette manuals" but do not stop the plundering of financial and industrial resources.

According to Antonio Chumacero in his unpublished book on this topic, in the decade 1971-81 foreign investment decapitalized the country, denationalized the economic policy, took over the most productive sectors, developed the practice of figureheads, encouraged the currency drain in several ways, made the policy of "Mexicanization" fail, got around Mexican laws with deceit and official complicity, did not contribute important technological advances, confronted the country with international political conflicts due to the arrogance of foreign businessmen and had a negative impact on national credit abroad.

The Chumacero study called "El impacto de la inversion extranjera en la balanza de pagos" [The impact of foreign investment on the balance of payments] won third place in the competition for the Juan F. Loyola National Economic Prize. Strangely, first place was declared vacant.

After investigating the incomplete and at times conflicting statistics on direct foreign investment, Chumacero made the following evaluation:

"If we want to attain the major long-term objectives that we have proposed as a nation, it will be necessary to nationalize--as was just done with banks--at least the more important enterprises that are in the hands not only of foreign but also private capital." He added that it is also necessary "to nationalize the economic policy so that, with both measures, the state can reassume its governing economic role even more completely, controlling economic growth to benefit the majority of the country."

To Chumacero, there are few roads to take. A few years ago, the author made a study--the first scientific one--on direct foreign investment with Bernardo Sepulveda, today Mexican ambassador to the United States. The conclusions then were different than now. Today there are not many options and the risk that denationalization of the economy will present greater problems for the country in the coming years. During the last decade, direct foreign investment took more money out of the country than it could bring in. This will be the trademark of transnational capital.

Chumacero gave PROCESO several conclusions from his recent study on the topic.

1. Commercially, financially and technologically, dependence on U.S. capital is high and "the possibilities of achieving autonomous development are very vulnerable."
2. Foreign investment is concentrated in the manufacturing industry, mainly the most dynamic and profitable branches. This indicates that foreign capital has been "orienting our development in a direction that does not correspond to our idiosyncrasies, the productive factors of our country or its desire to achieve a healthy and independent development."
3. In spite of the fact that "the apologists for foreign investment continue claiming the opposite, the strength of reality demonstrates that foreign enterprises develop according to the guidelines and interests of their parent companies, not those of the country in which they are established." The case of Mexico demonstrates this: in spite of their small participation in national investment and development, their contribution to the foreign imbalance is very high. They did not export but imported excessively.
4. Foreign enterprises finance their expansion by reinvestment of profits and internal credits from Mexican banks. "This means that the decapitalization they produce is continually fed with resources generated locally, diminishing possibilities of financing the truly Mexican production system."
5. The contribution of foreign enterprises to the Mexican trade imbalance is enormous, almost half of the deficit foreign trade.
6. The negative effects of foreign enterprises on national accounts invalidated the government policy on industrial development, control of foreign investment and Mexicanization since the enterprises with foreign investment that had more effect on the trade imbalance were precisely those that received greater stimulus from the state policy and in which the process of Mexicanization was developed more intensively.
7. The 1973 legislation on foreign investment did not stop any new foreign capital. Other elements that contributed to this situation include the rapid growth of the Mexican economy, the industrial development policy and the policy of Mexicanization, especially the last. It assumed that every foreign investment brought suitable technology that the country needed. It "practically opened the doors of the economy to direct foreign investment, subject to some slight participation in joint enterprises."

8. The foreign businessman has preferred to make joint investments with large private industrial and banking groups and, to a lesser degree, with the state.

9. Mexicanization through the sale of shares on the stock market or trusts "does not guarantee effective participation by Mexicans in the administration of these enterprises."

10. In short, "judging by the results, the policy of Mexicanization is not the right road so that foreign investment contribute effectively to national development, even in technology. Only a small portion of the contracts for transfer of technology refer to capital goods and strategic supplies. On the contrary, the facilities granted to foreign capital and to large private Mexican capital so that they join together in joint enterprises can mean short and long-term risks for national sovereignty by making the decisions of the state concerning development more dependent on foreigners, especially the United States."

Nationalize Development

Direct foreign investment has denationalized the country and development. Within the context of economic reform that makes the nationalization of banks possible, Chumacero proposes nationalization of foreign enterprises. He indicates the sectors that should be nationalized: food, agroindustry, the chemical and pharmaceutical industry, steel, mineral processing, construction, tobacco, bottling, self-service stores and a good part of the industry for articles for the home and personal use.

Chumacero added that first the government must use the bank nationalization and control of exchange to demand supervision over the activities of the foreign enterprises. It is urgent that foreign investment present currency budgets financed with its own resources and not with local credits and that they transfer the technology that the country needs.

The government must soon control the foreign enterprises that slip through the loopholes of the law. The power granted to the National Foreign Investments Commission to authorize new capital with the justification of "when it deems it appropriate" must be eliminated. Thanks to this exception, investments are more than 49 percent foreign. There must be a commission with several secretaries so that the responsibility does not fall to a single person.

Related to the previous measures, Chumacero emphasizes "nationalizing the economic policy." This must be understood as "the need to direct the economic policy toward the achievement of the basic objectives of sustained growth, but with social equality.

The author repeats that actions of social initiative that have popular support are urgent. The measures adopted to control foreign capital, regulate its entrance to the country, guide its actions and buy part of its shares through Mexicanization have not yielded the necessary results. According to official information, during the period 1973-81 222 enterprises, half of them manufacturers, were Mexicanized. There is one problem:

"The situation arises that these Mexicanized branches with state or private association are precisely the ones that explain a great part of the negative impact of foreign investment on the balance of payments."

On the other hand, the sectors recovered by the country through nationalization --mining, oil and fertilizers, for example--yield positive results for the Mexican economy. The association of national capital with foreign capital strengthens the political power of the management groups. They can go against the state to change the direction of development and to orient it toward the fulfillment of management and not social needs as occurred in 1972 and 1973.

At the bottom of the problem with direct foreign investment are the figures of national plundering:

In the period 1971-81, foreign enterprises were responsible for 57.8 percent of the deficit balance of payments which implies that the government must ask for credits to plug that loophole. Compared to the drain, those enterprises only contributed 18 percent of the necessary capital to finance withdrawals from abroad.

In that same decade, foreign enterprises were responsible for 58.1 percent of deficit foreign trade--they imported more than they could export--and 31 percent of the deficit in balance of payments.

In 10 years, foreign enterprises brought \$2.361 billion to the country. During that time, the currency drain was almost as high as the capital input.

In 10 years, the enterprises with foreign capital sold \$10.624 billion but had to buy imports totaling almost \$26 billion. Business, then, was bad for Mexico since the country had to cover the currency shortage of foreign investment.

In 10 years, the payment of interest abroad--capital outlay--grew 27 percent per year and represented 14.1 percent of the total interest paid by the country. This implies that interest represents a currency drain. The distortion is so pronounced that out of every dollar obtained abroad, they spent 76 cents to pay interest on other credits and barely 23.1 cents for investment. The credits were, therefore, to pay for other credits.

In 10 years, the capital outlays in profits remitted abroad increased faster than the accumulated investment itself. The rate of profit grew from 7.3 percent in 1971 to 22.7 percent in 1981. There could not be any better business. In 10 years, accumulated profits were about \$7.7 billion. In 1981, profits were almost \$2 billion while in 1977 they barely reached \$386.1 million.

In 10 years, the foreign enterprises took \$3.071 billion out of the country through profits remitted to their parent companies. This is 50 percent of new investments in the last 11 years. Foreign investors work to take out maximum yield in only a few years.

In 1981, \$734.7 million left the country to pay for technology alone; 65.2 percent of this went to the United States.

From 1977 to 1981, 84 percent of the deficit trade balance corresponded to the negative influence of foreign enterprises that imported almost everything and hardly exported anything. The drop in exports of the manufacturing industry, a sector that foreign investment dominates, was obvious.

Chumacero said that no one can maintain that direct foreign investment has been beneficial for the country. On the contrary, according to official figures, part of Mexico's economic crisis comes from the inefficiency, inability and capital drain of foreign investment. To date, this accumulated investment totals \$10.16 billion. It dominates an important part of the economy: food, rubber, chemical products, basic metals, machinery, electrical equipment and transportation. According to Chumacero's data, direct foreign investment continues to take over other branches of national industry and continues to denationalize the industrial system and the economy.

One surprising fact is the advance of foreign investment in trade since it produces high profits and requires low investments. About 80 percent of foreign investment in trade is from the United States. They have monopolized the large stores where sales and profits are concentrated. In trade the foreigners prefer complete ownership which has occurred with 54 percent of the trade enterprises with foreign investment.

There are three branches that foreign capital prefers: "miscellaneous articles and goods," "articles for the home and personal use" and "machinery, implements, tools, equipment and appliances." These are very dynamic branches which include large stores, self-service stores, furniture stores and agroindustrial stores. Of the 50 most important trades in the country, the top 20 show interesting data: they monopolize 90 percent of the sales and 66 percent of them include foreign capital.

There is foreign investment in Aurrera (49 percent), Sanborns, Comercial Mexicana, Salinas and Rocha (20 percent), Martell de Mexico (60 percent). Palacio de Hierro, Sumesa, Mexicana de Tractores, Paris-Londres, High Life, SKF Mexicana, Aceros Fortune, etc. The bad thing is that foreign capital is no guarantee of foreign currency for the country; on the contrary, it takes dollars out. From 1977 to 1981, 8.5 percent of the foreign currency deficit was from businesses with foreign capital. The state had to provide \$1.099 billion to meet their commitments.

Banks, Transnationals Linked

Mexico City PROCESO in Spanish 25 Oct 82 pp 8-9

[Article by Juan Antonio Zuniga M.]

[Text] They were like the ideal couple. The transnational enterprises found private Mexican banks to be an irreplaceable partner to insure their domination

in the most profitable and dynamic sectors of the economy. The banks, for their part, could extend their field of action beyond finances and shared part of the profits obtained by market control by the foreign branches.

The presence of banks in each one of the large foreign branches that operates in Mexico gave these enterprises a safe, reliable partner to send dollars back to their parent houses, whether as profits remitted for payment of patents and trademarks, technical and administrative advice or interest and amortization for foreign debts.

Out of 260 enterprises in which banks participated, at least 80 correspond to branches of transnational enterprises and consortia, almost all from the United States.

An official document of the National Banking and Insurance Commission includes only part of the bank participation in mining, commercial, industrial and service enterprises.

All these enterprises are part of the select group of the 500 most important enterprises in Mexico and also the 200 with the greatest export margins.

The transnational enterprises in which banks participate are responsible for the largest volumes of private exports and imports in Mexico. The U.S. market has almost absolute preponderance.

For example, 70 percent of the imports of chemical products, 65 percent of the machinery and electrical equipment and about 80 percent of the tractors come from the United States.

The banks were well paid for their association with transnational branches. A group of 20 enterprises that have direct or indirect foreign investment and in which private banks are shareholders accumulated almost 59 billion pesos in profits between 1977 and 1981, according to their respective financial balances. They are all among the 100 largest enterprises in the country.

In many enterprises with foreign investment, participation of the Mexican Government through SOMEX [Mexican Society for Industrial Credit] or NAFINSA [National Financial Bank] could be added to their association with private banks. This includes Celanese Mexicana, Compania Minera de Cananea, Compania Minera Autlan, Grupo Condumex, Indetel and Motores Perkins.

The understanding between private banks and the branches of foreign enterprises was basically done through individuals.

Aceros Ecatepec--whose main shareholders are Mercantile Trust Co. and Gettner Bank--also has Rolando Vega, a prominent member of Banca Confia and former president of ABM [Mexican Association of Bankers].

The shareholders of Alcan Aluminio, an enterprise devoted to the manufacture, distribution and sale of aluminum by-products, include Alcan Aluminium LTD, Pablo Deutz, Jr. of Banamex and Prudencio Lopez of BANCOMER [Bank of Commerce]. The latter was president of the Management Coordinating Council.

Partners of Aluminio S.A. include the Aluminum Company of America and Jorge Larrea Ortega, a member of Serfin before the nationalization of banks.

In the main synthetic fiber enterprise--Celanese--Alfredo Aboumrad of the same bank, Pablo Deutz of Banamex, Prudencio Lopez of BANCOMER and Jorge Espinosa de los Reyes of NAFINSA reached an understanding with Celanese Corporation.

The understanding between the branches of transnational corporations, bankers and government officials was unlimited. In Compania Minera de Cananea, Jorge Espinosa de los Reyes, a NAFINSA representative, Agustin F. Legorreta of Banamex and Hector Alvarez de la Cadena, director of foreign investments for Sepafin, shared credits and dividends with the Greene Cananea Copper Company.

The transnational enterprises always preferred banks as partners. In the chemical, food processing and tobacco industries, the understanding was harmonious. Eugenio Erana Garcia, former president of ABM, was a partner with Westminster Tobacco Co. in Empresas La Moderna.

In Toluca enterprises which controlled cement and premixed concrete enterprises, Bernardo Quintana Arriola of the Bank of the Atlantic was a capitalist partner of Associated International Cement as was Alfredo del Mazo Gonzalez, present governor of the state of Mexico.

Perhaps as a representative of Banamex or personally, Antonio Madero is one of the closest partners in the Camesa industrial group. Some of its controlled enterprises are associated with foreign investments. This group also includes Antonio Enriquez Savignac, assistant secretary of finance and a member of the Mexican Government negotiating team with the IMF.

Industrias Purina, one of the largest transnational food enterprises, was closely associated with Comermex through Jose Pintado Rivero, former president of the ABM. Jess N. Dalton, one of the largest defrauders of the national treasury in recent years, appeared as a shareholder in this branch of Purina until 1979.

Now a fugitive, Jess N. Dalton was a partner in Compania Industrial de San Cristobal, NAFINSA and Scott Paper Company.

Cresencio Ballesteros, representative of Banamex, served as liaison for the association between this bank and the Kimberly Clark Corporation and Deere & Co., manufacturer of Deere tractors.

In Mexalit--one of the leading enterprises in the manufacture and sale of piping, plates and vats of asbestos cement--banking was associated with Cartain Teed Products Corp. through Victor Manuel Herrera, another former president of ABM and an important member of Banamex.

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CSO: 3248/223

YOUTH LEADER ANALYZES MOTIVE OF REAGAN VISIT

PA181600 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] Fernando Cardenal, vice coordinator of the Sandinist youth, has said that Reagan's trip to Latin America at this time is intended to achieve unity among his friends and to destabilize the deep and revolutionary unity of the peace-loving peoples.

Cardenal made the assertion during a speech to 600 UNEM [National Union of Nicaraguan Students] student delegates who participated in the second national assembly of group leaders held to commemorate International Student Day and to salute the second national meeting of Nicaraguan youth. Other participants at the event were Joaquin Solis Piura, rector of Theunam [National Autonomous University of Nicaragua], (Mario Hernandez), president of FEUCA [Federation of Central American University Student], UNEM President Eugenio Farias; and student representatives.

Cardenal urged students to deepen the work for unity--not a romantic unity, but unity around the interests of the exploited class. However, it would be best for you to listen to him:

[Begin Cardenal recording] I think that we must be very conscious of the historical role our country and each one of us are playing in the region.

For slightly over 20 years Central America and the Caribbean have been awakening to a deeper revolutionary conscience. The Cuban and Sandinist revolutions are key elements in this awakening.

We can now see that all Central America and the Caribbean are experiencing deep revolutionary agitation. We must be conscious of the fact that we are in the midst of a hurricane that is leading our countries toward the destruction of old structures and the construction of a new society.

Amid this awareness of the region's problems, we must be clearly conscious that we represent a unity in this region--a unity from the standpoint of class interests.

The U.S. Government is trying to form another unity and--through its projects and programs to grant assistance to the Caribbean--is trying to pit a union of governments friendly to the U.S. Government against the governments that represent their peoples, the cause of liberation of their peoples and the cause of the dispossessed classes among their peoples. [End recording]

CSO: 3248/298

ANTI-SANDINIST RADIO ON SAN JOSE KIDNAPPING

PA210634 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 0000 GMT
20 Nov 82

[Text] A reliable source at the Costa Rican State Security Service has revealed that Argentine citizen Hector Fernando Frances Garcia, kidnapped on 6 October, was the victim of a plot carried out by the Nicaraguan Government with the help of its embassy in San Jose.

Costa Rican Government authorities have discovered a reliable source indicating that the operation may have been conducted under direct orders from Commander Lenin Cerna, chief of the Nicaragua State Security. Juan Jose Ubeda, Cerna's assistant and second in command of the institution, reportedly traveled to San Jose to direct and coordinate the operation. The Nicaraguan ambassador in San Jose, Rogelio Ramirez M., was aware of his visit.

The confidential report noted that Ubeda brought with him a picked group of 25 security officers to ensure the success of the operation and avoid a repetition of the incidents of last July, when the confession of a [words indistinct] in the incident involving an official of the Nicaraguan Embassy in San Jose.

Following his kidnapping, Frances was secretly taken to Nicaragua, where he was subjected to intensive questioning. Although the Costa Rican security officers have not confirmed this, there are unconfirmed reports that the questioning was personally supervised by Cerna, whose assistants are Cuban specialists.

Although there is no evidence that the Soviets are directly involved in this operation, the authorities are speculating over the possibility that Soviet misinformation experts could have offered assistance to the Nicaraguan officials. There has been talk, in fact, that the nine may try to brainwash Frances, and that if he resists they would order that he be secretly executed.

A Foreign Ministry source indicated that if it could obtain sufficient proof of complicity on the part of the Sandinist government in the kidnapping it could bring about a break in relations with Nicaragua. Confirmation of this information would affect the already shaky relations between Ambassador Ramirez, brother of Dr Sergio Ramirez M., a member of the Sandinist junta and Costa Rican Foreign Minister Fernando Volio.

We want to make the following commentary on the above report. Should this information be confirmed, it would mean that an act of terrorism has been condoned by an embassy, and that this embassy should be described as irresponsible and terrorist. Confirmation of this information would imply that the long tentacles of state security move unpunished in other countries, promoting a climate of instability for Nicaraguan citizens who left the country out of fear of that very same state security.

A break in relations between the governments of the area and Nicaragua would [word indistinct] for those who, like the nine, are determined to violate the internal tranquillity of our neighboring nations.

Costa Rican Foreign Minister Fernando Volio, showing a great sense of responsibility, has on [words indistinct] occasions to the irresponsible and arrogant ambassador of the nine in San Jose to demand respect for Costa Rica and its institutions. Ramirez M., despite these complaints, cannot even observe the minimum rules of diplomacy.

So far we have not been able to confirm this information but its mere possibility is enough to horrify any democracy or citizen of the world. The Voice of Sandino recently reported that a squad of state security officers was plotting a number of attacks and kidnappings of opposition members residing in Costa Rica. We even received information claiming that our leader, Eden Pastora Gomez, would be a victim of a state security attack.

Again, we denounce these plans and hold the traitorous collective responsible for the kidnapping or murder of any person associated with the opposition of the dictatorial regime of the nine.

CSO: 3248/298

CTN MEMBERS REPUDIATE HUEMBES MEETING

PA191850 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 18 Nov 82

[Text] Antonio Jarquin, member of the Nicaraguan Workers Federation, CTN, national executive committee, announced yesterday that members of this organization will march to Managua to repudiate the meeting organized by Carlos Huembes and Donald Castillo. Jarquin said that a Managua newspaper is giving Carlos Huembes much publicity as a member of this organization but the CTN expelled him in September. Jarquin added that Huembes' meeting is not valid, since it does not represent the real members of the organization, the workers. He added that Huembes, with this meeting, seeks to detract attention from the real problems experienced by the Nicaraguan workers. He mentioned that should Huembes visit the peasants in Nueva Guinea his stay there would not be a pleasant one, because he has caused much harm to the peasants of the area. He is not liked or wanted among them. The following statement is by Antonio Jarquin.

[Begin recording] [Jarquin] We have to mention that the Huembes group and those who protect him are shamelessly pretending to be members of organizations such as ours. Regarding the meeting they are announcing, even through loudspeakers on the streets, I would like to say that it has no validity, because it is not supported by the members of our organizations. This is something that Huembes is doing following the advice given him by people who do not protect the interests of the workers and want to detract attention from the real problems experienced in Nicaragua, especially by our organization.

[Question] What does this meeting mean? How many unions are backing Huembes?

[Answer] I want to show you a photograph that was published by LA PRENSA under the heading of "Union Leaders." LA PRENSA is the newspaper that has become Carlos Huembes and Donald Castillos' spokesman. Here we see (Victor Espinoza Pau), (Guillermo Herrera), (Marianita de Arca), (Lydia Reyes) and (Carlos Madrigal), all members of the Social Christian Party and the Nicaraguan Permanent Human Rights Commission. They are posing as leaders of our organization.

It is sad to hear Huembes speak of 65,000 members. This is his biggest lie and he wants to pass it as an objective truth. Huembes only has small groups of companeros who have been confused by the lies he tells them and also confused because of certain statements made at international level that support him. As I said before, he is backed by some people, but they do not represent our organization. [End recording]

CSO: 3248/298

COSTA RICAN 'MILITARIZATION' CRITICIZED

PA232324 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 17 Nov 82 p 2

[Editorial: "The Costa Rican Militarization"]

[Text] International dispatches yesterday reported that the top Costa Rican authorities have issued instructions for the creation of military brigades in addition to the regular armed forces of that country to date.

It is something that a few years back nobody would ever have conceived: the militarization of a state that in the past had displayed pride in its democratic system and, therefore, in not needing an army.

In recent times, however, things have radically changed in Costa Rica, to the extent that notable changes in its institutional life such as growing armament and militarization are taking place.

In fact, hit by a very serious economic crisis and on the verge of bankruptcy, that neighboring country is confronted by the highest cost of living in Central America.

Thus, aside from declaring its inability to meet its international financial commitments and being helplessly afflicted by the highest inflation rate in its history, the Costa Rican Government is being pressed by the people, who are resentful of high unemployment and the high cost of living.

The current banana workers strike has already lasted 2 months, and yesterday the workers threatened to extend the work stoppage to other plantations.

The socioeconomic situation in Costa Rica is, therefore, very difficult and explosive.

However, and despite the fact that the previous "democratic" governments were incapable of defending the nation's interests and avoiding the debacle, the new authorities have accepted a number of measures imposed by the International Monetary Fund, controlled by the United States, which has provoked greater increases in inflation.

In view of these circumstances, it would be no surprise if the IMF and imperialism had their hands in the military escalation that is underway in that neighboring country, whose forces could serve, first of all, to repress the protests of the impoverished and anguished Costa Rican workers.

Besides, with the creation of a regular army of large proportions in Costa Rica, imperialism seeks to find a formula to surround Nicaragua and its revolution with another military force on the southern border.

And those now ruling that country are leading themselves to such maneuvers even though they are not faced with any military menace and even though they risk destroying the "democratic" model myth that prompted some naive sectors to consider Costa Rica as the Central American Switzerland.

CSO: 3248/298

COMMANDER ARCE MAKES STATEMENT TO 'PRAVDA'

PA240152 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1803 GMT 22 Nov 82

[Text] The enemies of the Sandinist revolution are on an open offensive against Nicaragua. The border with Honduras has been declared a war zone, turned by the United States into a beachhead of intervention, making the defence of the revolutionary gains in Nicaragua a daily imperative. These are statements by Commander Bayardo Arce, FSLN National Directorate member and FSLN Political Commission coordinator, to the Moscow newspaper PRAVDA. There is rarely a day that provocative actions and attacks are not carried out from Honduran territory against Nicaraguan border posts. Under these complex conditions Nicaraguans are trying to set up the foundations for the people's government and reorganize the country's economy, reinforce its defence and continue building houses, Commander Arce told a PRAVDA correspondent.

The country's political, social and economic ideologies are contained in the agrarian reform that was put into effect in one of the first decrees issued by the revolutionary process. The main objective at this stage of our daily efforts is to consolidate the new government at all levels. The workers are actively participating in this process and are also assuming the responsibility of seeing that the economy functions well and maintaining political tranquillity in the country, Commander Arce pointed out. He added that what is especially important is that changes are taking place with full respect for the country's historical reality and other factors.

Commander Arce announced that the national slogan "Defense and production" will end this year, and that for next year the slogan will be "Production and defense." This is not a mere juggling of words, he pointed out; the purpose is deeper, and despite the constant threats from imperialism we are going to transfer the center of gravity of our efforts to the realm of socioeconomic development.

Finally, he indicated that Nicaragua is receiving a great deal of help from the USSR, Cuba and other socialist countries and from the world's progressive forces.

CSO: 3248/298

BRIEFS

HUNGARIAN INTERIOR MINISTER VISIT--A high-ranking Hungarian delegation is visiting Nicaragua. It is headed by Interior Minister Istvan Horvath, a member of the Central Committees of the Workers Party. The objective of the visit is to further strengthen the ties of friendship between Hungary and the Nicaraguan revolutionary government. On arriving in the country, Companero Istvan said he was very pleased to be in Sandino's land, since this will permit him to more closely learn of the Sandinist revolutionary process. The distinguished visitors were welcomed this morning at the Augusto Cesar Sandino Airport by commanders of the revolution Tomas Borge Martinez and Luis Carrion, minister and deputy minister of the interior, respectively, and by members of the top directorate of the Interior Minister. Borge welcomed the visitors, stating that the Nicaraguan Government and our vanguard, the FSLN, are very pleased to have in the country such distinguished friends to whom we are linked through ties of friendship and cooperation. [Text] [PA240256 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 22 Nov 82]

CSO: 3248/298

NEW PARTY FORMED, SEEKS UNITED OPPOSITION

FLO91930 Bridgetown CANA in English 1759 GMT 9 Nov 82

[Text] Kingstown, St Vincent, 9 Nov (CANA)--Vicentian lawyer-politician Dr Ralph Gonsalves has formed the eighth political party in this 150 square mile (44 sq km) [figures as received] country--the Movement for National Unity (MNU), geared to uniting local opposition forces.

Gonsalves, who only last month left the socialist United People's Movement (UPM) over ideological differences, said the MNU was seeking a united opposition to provide a possible alternative to the ruling St Vincent Labour Party (SVLP) of Prime Minister Milton Cato.

Dr Gonsalves, a former University of the West Indies (UWI) lecturer, now a practising lawyer here, said the opposition forces in St Vincent which were patriotic, democratic, principled and progressive, were divided, yet reluctant to forge a broadbased unity, making it appear that none of them was a viable alternative to the Cato administration.

The other seven parties in this Caribbean state of 125,000 people are the New Democratic Party (NDP) of Calder Williams, the Progressive Democratic Party (PDP) of Randolph Russel, a former health minister, the People's Political Party (PPP) of Clive Tannis, the People's Democratic Movement (PDM) of lawyer Dr Kenneth John, and the St Vincent National Movement (SVNM) of medical practitioner, Dr Gideon Cordice.

Dr Gonsalves said the MNU was founded by a group of 20 Vincentians, with himself as chairman.

It includes trade unionist Casper London, who like Dr Gonsalves resigned as an executive member of the UPM because of ideological differences, Cecil "Blazer" Williams, an economist, Julian "Buckey" Boyea, a businessman and farmer, Clive Bishop, an agricultural scientist and social worker, Cyp Neehall.

Dr Gonsalves, who describes himself as a scientific socialist, said he left the UPM because it has decided to follow a path of Marxism-Leninism.

But UPM's new leader, Oscar Allen, said from its very beginning the party had determined that its policies were that its members should study the political

realities in which they lived and fully understand them, should work among the people to guide them, while the leadership of the party should at all times bring together the work of the members and direct them in a certain path.

He added: "These are the principles which we feel our working people have to abide by in order to prepare themselves for a democratic rule in this country. These are the principles which Gonsalves has called Marxist-Leninist."

In a separate statement published in its organ, JUSTICE, last weekend, the UPM said that the resignations of Dr Gonsalves and former executive member, Casper London, would have immediate adverse effects on the struggles of the working people of St Vincent and the Grenadines, and would help to sow confusion and division in the ranks of the popular movement which could develop the state.

CSO: 3298/1151

SECURITY SYSTEM PARTICIPATION CRITICIZED

FLO81930 Bridgetown CANA in English 1812 GMT 8 Nov 82

[Text] Kingston, St Vincent, 8 Nov (CANA)--The small leftist opposition United People's Movement (UPM) here, has written to St Vincent and the Grenadines Prime Minister Milton Cato, objecting to his signing of a treaty to establish a Caribbean security system without prior consultation with the Vincentian public.

The governments of Barbados, Dominica, St Vincent and the Grenadines, St Lucia and Antigua, recently signed the treaty in Dominica.

The UPM said there was no prior discussion here with the people about the details of the document.

The UPM called on the government to publish full details of the treaty.

The party said it supported the idea of countries in the region sharing coast guard facilities in order to check and wipe out smuggling, to assist ships in distress, and to ward off invasion from foreign forces.

But the group condemned the "entering of treaties behind the backs of Vincentians."

St Vincent and the Grenadines has a 75-foot coastal patrol vessel "The George McIntosh," and two 27-foot in-shore patrol craft, "The Larikai" and the "Brighton."

CSO: 3298/1151

BRIEFS

'VINCENTIAN' NEWSPAPER SOLD--Kingstown, St Vincent, 15 Nov (CANA)--Metrocint General Insurance Company, which has taken over ownership of the weekly VINCENTIAN newspaper here, has pledged to uphold the dignity and respect of the free flow of information in St Vincent and the Grenadines. Managing director of Metrocint, Egerton Richards, said: "This policy will at times gladden some people and at other times sadden some people, but if the paper is to be a patriotic one, then it must be kept free. He said his company planned to increase the circulation of the newspaper, and to make it available throughout St Vincent and the Grenadines. Mr Richards also announced plans to expand the columns of the newspaper to cover local news, but he said to do this would require the support of the mercantile community. The 63-year-old paper has been experiencing serious financial difficulties prior to the take-over by the Metrocint four weeks ago. [Text] [FL151525 Bridgetown CANA in English 1347 GMT 15 Nov 82]

CSO: 3298/1151

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